

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1884.

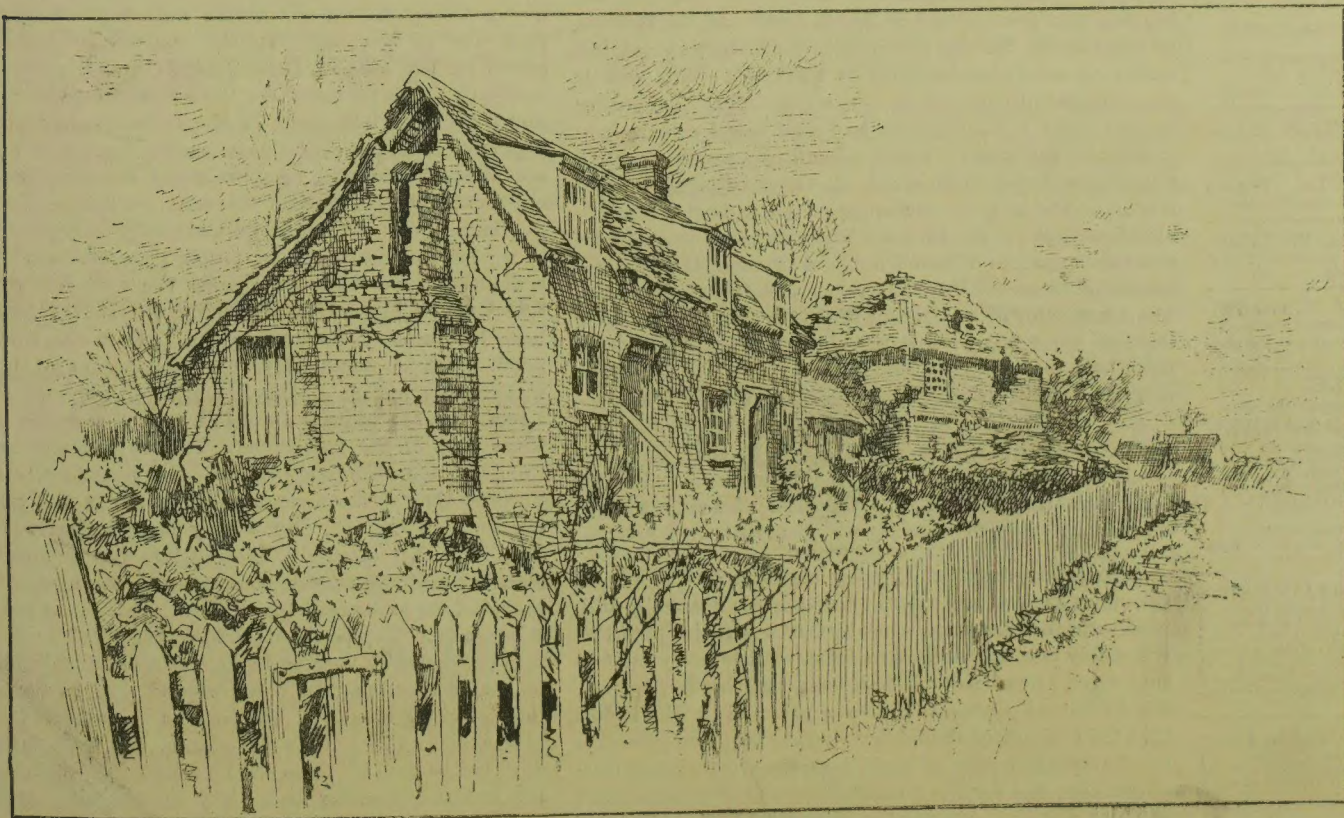
WITH SUPPLEMENT } SIXPENCE.  
AND TINTED PICTURE } By Post, 6<sup>ad</sup>.

## THE EARTHQUAKE IN ESSEX.

A survey of the area of the greatest severity of the earthquake shock on Tuesday week shows that the extent of the damage is far greater than was supposed from the first vague accounts which came to hand from the district round Colchester. These by no means exaggerated the amount of destruction caused within the small circle in which the influence of the wave was most distinctly felt, but rather erred in estimating the damage too low. From Colchester in a south-easterly direction towards Abberton, the effects of the earthquake are visible on every hand. This little parish is situate about three miles from Colchester, and bears witness in a remarkable degree to the intensity of the shock which affected the surface of the country. Not only were chimneys thrown down in all directions, but houses were unroofed, the gable walls cracked, and the foundations shaken. Passing on to Langenhoe, a few miles further on, the most remarkable evidences of the shock are to be seen. Farmhouses are wrecked, or partially so, all along the high road, while Langenhoe Church, an ancient structure of stone built in the Norman period, is shattered in a manner that would scarcely be credited except from personal observation. The massive tower, surmounted by battlements, constructed of great blocks of stone, was so shaken that the heavy masonry fell with destructive force on to the roof above the nave and chancel, utterly destroying the roof for a space of ten feet square, and filling the interior of the edifice with a mass of debris. The Rector, the Rev. Mr. Parkinson, has suffered by the partial demolition of his residence, situate about two hundred yards from the church. There were half a dozen chimney-stacks on the house, and these have all been overthrown or twisted on their foundations so as to necessitate their being removed, while the walls have been cracked in every direction. Long fissures appear also in the grounds surrounding the house, particularly in the hard-rolled gravel walks. Mr. Parkinson says he felt the shock in a series of undulations, accompanied by a twisting motion; the furniture and other articles in the house appearing to perform a gyrating movement, and the whole series of shocks, for there were more than one, lasting about half a minute. Several farmhouses in the vicinity are much damaged by being partially unroofed and by the gables falling out. Altogether the damage in this parish amounts to several thousand pounds. In a southerly direction from Langenhoe lies Peldon, a much larger parish, and the spectacle here from the high road is of an extraordinary character. It is a fact that not a single dwelling or building of any description in Peldon has escaped injury in a greater or less degree. From the church on the hill down to the lowest cottier's dwelling, destruction has been wrought on every hand, the seismic movement exerting itself in some cases in the displacement of masonry and brickwork in the most fantastic forms. The church of Peldon itself, a fine structure built in the thirteenth century, is rendered unfit for present use, the battlements of the Norman tower and its crown having been thrown to the ground or into the body of the building, breaking through the roof in their descent, and smashing the pews beneath. The residence of Mr. Holland, a large house of modern construction, has been shattered from basement to roof almost beyond repair. The walls and staircases have been torn asunder, and the outer walls cracked and split in all directions. It is estimated that the destruction to house property alone in this district will amount to over £6000. As illustrating the peculiarity of the wave in its effects on



LANGENHOE CHURCH, WITH THE RUINED TOWER AND ROOF.



SHATTERED HOUSES AT PELDON.

buildings, it may be noted that a house in Peldon was moved upon its foundation for a space of six inches, not laterally, but as if it had been taken and partially turned round. Some remarkable phenomena were noticed at the village of West Mersea, about six miles from Colchester. The place is supplied with water from a number of natural springs, which produce water of great purity. When the shock took place a great fissure, a rod in length, opened in the ground, and the water in the springs, finding a new channel of escape, was temporarily drawn off from the pools where it had accumulated. The water taken from the wells immediately afterwards was discoloured, some of the samples being of a chalky hue, while others were coloured red, as if they held particles of mineral earth in solution. At the schoolhouse at West Mersea the children, 140 in number, had a narrow escape, the building being partially unroofed, the falling bricks and tiles creating the utmost terror among them; but the master, with great presence of mind, ran to the door as they crowded out and commanded them to return to their seats until they could leave the building in an orderly manner. The residence of Dr. Green at this place is a complete wreck, presenting one of the most startling evidences of the destructive effects of the earthquake. There is not a room that is not damaged, and the building will probably have to come down altogether. Dr. Green had just entered his surgery when the shock occurred, and had a narrow escape from the falling bottles and glasses. It is satisfactory to note that, with the exception of one at Row Hedge, no lives have been lost; which, considering the immensity of the destruction to property, is remarkable indeed. A subscription is opened by the Lord Mayor of London for the relief of the poorer class of sufferers.



## BIRTHS.

Lady Mowbray Stourton was safely confined of a daughter at Stourton Castle on Wednesday, April 23.

On the 28th ult., at Brighton, the Lady Constance Bellingham, of a son.  
On the 27th ult., at Lugwardine Court, Herefordshire, the wife of Sir Herbert Croft, Bart., of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

On the 24th ult., at St. Luke's Church, Jersey, by the Rev. P. R. Pipon Braithwaite, M.A., Vicar, assisted by the Rev. Charles Marett, M.A., Rector of St. Saviour's, Jersey, Charles Janvrin Robin, of Steephill, Jersey, and of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law, eldest son of the late Charles William Robin, to Henrietta Magdalen, only daughter of Thomas Smith Robin, Esq., late Captain 54th Regiment.

On the 24th ult., at St. Ann's Church, Aigburth, by the Rev. Canon Trench, brother-in-law of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Canon Livingstone, Vicar, Edward H. St. L. Clarke, Captain 1st Worcestershire Regiment, to Susan Douglas, second daughter of Charles Langton, Esq., Barkhill, Liverpool.

## DEATH.

On March 12, at Valparaiso, Chili, Edward George, eldest son of Edward Squire, Esq., aged 21 years.

\* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is Five Shillings for each announcement.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 10.

SUNDAY, MAY 4.  
Third Sunday after Easter.  
Morning Lessons: Num. xxii.; Luke xxii. 64. Evening Lessons: Num. xxii. or xxiv.; I. Thess. i.  
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., 3.15 p.m. and 7 p.m.  
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., Rev. J. Ridgway; 3 p.m., Canon Prothero; 7 p.m., the Bishop of Newcastle.  
St. James's, noon, probably Rev. F. G. Garden, the Sub-Dean.  
Whitehall, 11 a.m.  
Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. H. White; 7 p.m., Rev. F. J. Pousonby.

MONDAY, MAY 5.  
Royal Academy Exhibition opens.  
Royal Institution, general monthly meeting, 5 p.m.  
British Architects' Institute, anniversary, 8 p.m.  
Chemical Industry Society, 8 p.m.  
Surveyors' Institution, 8 p.m.  
Farmers' Club, 4 p.m., Mr. H. M. Jenkin on Basilage.  
Anniversaries: Home and Colonial School Society, 2.30 p.m.; National Temperance League, 6.30 p.m.  
Society of Arts, 8 p.m., Cantor Lecture, Mr. Norman Lockyer on some new Optical Instruments.

TUESDAY, MAY 6.  
Christian Knowledge Society, 2 p.m.  
Royal Institution, 3 p.m., Professor Gamgee on the Physiology of Nerve and Muscle.  
Biblical Archaeology Society, 8 p.m.  
Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m.  
Gresham Lectures, 6 p.m., Rev. E. Leider on Astronomy (four days).  
Victoria Institute, 8 p.m., Vice-Chancellor Dawson on Pre-historic Man in Egypt and the Lebanon.  
Zoological Society, 8.30 p.m.  
Anniversaries: Church Missionary Society, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Chester Races.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7.  
Entomological Society, 7 p.m.  
Society of Arts, 8 p.m., Mr. C. V. Boys on Bicycles and Tricycles.  
Civil and Mechanical Engineers' Society, general meeting, 7 p.m.  
Royal Society, President's reception, 9 p.m.  
British Archaeological Association, anniversary, 4.30 p.m.

Philharmonic Society, 8 p.m.  
Governments' Benevolent Institution, anniversary dinner, Willis's Rooms.  
Medical Benevolent College, festival dinner, Langham Hotel.  
St. Mary's Hospital, festival dinner, Freemasons' Tavern.  
British and Foreign Bible Society, anniversary, 11 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 8.  
International Health Exhibition, to be opened by the Duke of Cambridge.  
Wordsworth Society, address by the Hon. J. R. Lowell.  
Royal Institution, 3 p.m., Professor Dewar on Flame and Oxidation.  
Royal Society, 4.30 p.m.  
Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m.  
Telegraph Engineers' Society, 8 p.m.  
Mathematical Society, 8 p.m.  
Society of Arts, 8 p.m., Dr. C. R. Alder Wright on Cupro-Ammonium Solution and its Use in Waterproofing.  
Anniversaries: Church Pastoral Aid Society, 3 p.m.; Sunday School Union, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 9.  
Royal Institution, 8 p.m.; Professor W. Robertson Smith on Mohammedan Mahdis, 9 p.m.  
Astronomical Society, 8 p.m.  
New Shakspeare Society, 8 p.m., Shakspeare Madrigals, Glees, and Songs.  
Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 p.m.  
Sacred Harmonic Society, conversation.  
Architectural Association, 6.30 p.m., Mr. T. T. Blashill on Construction.  
Westminster Hospital, festival dinner, Holborn Restaurant.  
Religious Tract Society, anniversary, 6.30 p.m.  
United Service Institution, 3 p.m., Mr. A. F. Yarrow on Torpedo Boats.  
Races: Ripon and Kempton.  
Society of Arts, 8 p.m., Dr. Leitner on Indigenous Education in India.

SATURDAY, MAY 10.  
Full moon, 4.8 a.m.  
Royal Institution, 8 p.m., Mr. H. M. Westropp on Roman Archaeology, the Palatine Hill.  
Physical Society, 3 p.m.  
Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. Every Evening at Nine, BRIGHTON, with Mr. Charles Wyndham as Bob Sackett. Preceded by, at Eight, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE, price 3s., for which numbered Seats may now be booked during the day, will be OPEN on and after MONDAY NEXT, MAY 5.—CRITERION THEATRE.

HORSE SHOW, AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. ENTRIES CLOSE MAY 19. SHOW OPEN MAY 31, JUNE 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Prize Lists and Forms of Entry may be obtained on application to R. YENNER, Secretary, Agricultural Hall Company, Limited. Offices: Barford-street, Liverpool-road, Islington.

## POSTAGE FOR FOREIGN PARTS THIS WEEK.

MAY 3, 1884.

The publication of the Thin Paper Edition of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS being for the present week suspended, subscribers will please to notice that copies of this Number forwarded abroad must be prepaid according to the following rates:—*Two pence* to Africa (West Coast of), Alexandria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, China (via United States), Constantinople, Denmark, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Holland, Italy, Jamaica, Mauritius, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America; *Three pence* to China (via Brindisi), and India; and *Four pence* to the Transvaal.

Newspapers for foreign parts must be posted within eight days of the date of publication, irrespective of the *Departure* of the mails.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1884.

The interest of the British people in the marriage of the Queen's grand-daughter must have been greatly increased by the recent touching letter in which her Majesty took her subjects into her confidence and revealed her grateful appreciation of the universal sympathy called forth by the death of Prince Leopold. Nothing could be better fitted to prevent absorption in natural grief than the wedding of Wednesday in the Castle Chapel, Darmstadt, which brought together so many members of the Royal Family, and must for a time have given a brighter and even more joyous aspect to life. That Queen Victoria was there at all was further evidence of her high sense of duty and of that moral resolution which has never failed her on critical occasions. To be able to assuage deep personal sorrow by entering heartily into the joys and hopes of others is a true mark of womanly fortitude and unselfishness. The scene at Darmstadt, when the Princess Victoria was united in the bonds of matrimony to Prince Louis of Battenberg, though shorn of the customary pomp and splendour, was one of genuine domestic interest. It comes home to the hearts of all who know the strength of family ties and have been softened by the vicissitudes of life. In the presence of her children and children's children, and many German relatives, the Queen could not but feel how much, apart from the cares of State, there is to occupy her thoughts, lighten her troubles, and expand her sympathetic nature. As a member of the British Naval service, Prince Louis, the fortunate bridegroom, will continue to reside in this country, and will bring with him the fair daughter of the Princess Alice, who will be not less cordially welcomed by the English people than by the Royal family of which she has become a member.

The second financial statement of Mr. Childers, though holding out no boons to patient taxpayers, contained some features of remarkable interest. His estimate of income has been more than realised, but to the expected expenditure during the past financial year was added more than a million and a quarter for supplementary estimates—a very ugly feature, which a few years ago was regarded as a highly objectionable innovation. The Chancellor of the Exchequer owes much to the income tax. It has yielded nearly half a million more than he had expected. The fact that the proceeds of each penny of this tax have risen in twenty years three-quarters of a million is a sign that England has not been impoverished by free trade. Including a quarter of a million as a grant in aid of the Afghan War—the cost of which is being gradually paid off by the present Government—the expenditure for the ensuing year is estimated at £85,292,000, and the revenue at £85,550,000, leaving a surplus (after deducting reduced duties on carriages for hire) of £241,000. This sum is only adequate to be left as a margin. There is nothing to give away. Mr. Childers had two novel proposals to make. By the issue of a new token half sovereign, worth only 9s., he hopes to supersede all the existing half sovereigns, and to keep the sovereign—the standard of value—at full weight for the future. The scheme appears to receive the approval of sound political economists, but Lord Randolph Churchill threatens uncompromising opposition. The Chancellor of the Exchequer also proposes to lower the rate of interest by permitting the holders of Three per Cent Consols to exchange, on certain terms, into a new Two-and-Three-Quarter per Cent security, redeemable some twenty years hence, or into the present Two-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, which is not likely to be paid off. The result has been a great rise in the latter stock. But the Budget is not likely to be disposed of without much discussion.

The proceedings of Monday night in the House of Commons suggest some doubt whether the Franchise Bill, which was read the second time by the large majority of 130, will safely pass through Committee. It has not yet got to that stage, a number of "instructions," barring its progress. Mr. Gladstone refused to discuss a proposal by Mr. Raikes that the Committee should have power to make provision for the redistribution of seats between the existing constituencies, and for the representation of populous urban sanitary districts at present unrepresented, on the ground

that the question had already been decided. But the proposed "instruction" was eventually rejected by a majority of only 27 (174 to 147), a large body of Liberals having left the House, not expecting a division. Such mishaps tend to weaken the prestige of the Government and to encourage their opponents. Even if they should be guarded against in future, there are one or two critical amendments to dispose of when the House goes into Committee, especially that for excluding Ireland from the bill. This proposal of Mr. Chaplin's, it is understood, several moderate Liberals are prepared to support, and are likely thereby considerably to diminish the Ministerial majority.

Such critics of the Franchise Bill will be strengthened in their resolution by the revelations brought to light at the Police Court, Birmingham, on Saturday. After the recent arrests of Daly, alias Denman, at Birkenhead—upon whom were found several dangerous bombs and some explosive liquid—and of Egan at Birmingham, the police pursued their investigations with diligence and success. Declining to accept Egan's protestations, they searched his house and grounds, and, buried in his garden, discovered a tin case containing a number of documents showing that a number of persons, belonging to the Irish Republican Brotherhood, have for many years been engaged in a criminal conspiracy in the Northern and Midland counties of England, and that among the members of this secret society, whose organisation is minutely described in the captured correspondence, had been distributed some 8300 rifles and revolvers. The two prisoners, who are in close custody, have been remanded on the grave charge of treason-felony. Before their trial it is probable that the police will make further discoveries, and equally likely that there will be further threats of outrages. The safety of the public lies in the treachery of accomplices, by whose agency the police are believed to have got scent of the treasonable documents buried in Egan's garden, and will, perhaps, ere long get at more of the secrets of the dynamite plotters.

Amid the maze of contradictory reports which are telegraphed from Cairo, it has become manifest that Berber is past all relief, and that General Gordon is shut out from all communication with the capital of Egypt. The feasibility of dispatching an expedition to rescue the gallant Hussein Bey and his Egyptian garrison was a delusion. No troops could with safety be sent for four months to come. To dispatch English battalions across the desert of Korosko, a distance of 280 miles, would at this season, we are told, involve the loss of three-fifths of the number. This is the report from Cairo. If it be correct, no British Government would venture upon so criminal an enterprise. The same consideration holds good in respect to Khartoum, which can only be reached from Berber, now beset with fanatical Arabs, or from Dongola, the route to which is equally difficult. Although the last advices from General Gordon, now some weeks ago, indicated that he was well-provisioned and safe, the fall of Berber would no doubt increase his peril, and his Egyptians are as unreliable as those who surrendered at Tokar. They may, however, be able, behind fortifications, to exhibit a courage which fails them in the field. If they are to be trusted, our noble representative and his companions are safe behind the strong defences of Khartoum, and will be still safer when the Nile begins to rise. But it is useless to disguise that he is quite beyond the reach of help from Egypt, though there is good reason for trusting to his remarkable fertility of resource.

The admission of women to the examinations—or certain of the examinations—of Oxford University has become a question of foremost interest, owing to the indiscreet opposition of certain influential members of that seat of learning. In the controversy which has arisen on the subject, Dean Burgon and his prejudiced coadjutors were no match for the advocates of this reasonable concession, and some of the learned collegians who appeared to oppose all change must have felt a little mortified at being so completely put down by their fair opponents. It is about four years ago, we believe, since the governing body in Cambridge University openly conceded to women the advantages of public examinations. What could the Dons there do against the influence so conspicuously wielded by Girton and Newnham? No substantial harm has come of the innovation, but, on the contrary, much good. Consequently, the capitulation of Oxford was only a question of time, for was not Convocation besieged by St. Margaret's Hall and Somerville Hall? The claims of the fair sex have been twice recognised by Congregation, the body of resident graduates, and on Tuesday their decision came up for review in the governing body of Oxford. By a very large majority (464 to 321), in a full assembly, Convocation has endorsed the statute admitting women to certain of the examinations provided for undergraduates. The decision is as politic as it is timely. Everyone would have regretted to see Oxford permanently lagging behind other academical bodies on such a question. In one University, as in the other, "sweet girl graduates" are sure to be a credit to Alma Mater, and no long time will elapse, we venture to predict, before each of these seats of learning will follow in the wake of London University by throwing open the B.A. degree to the fair sex.

## BRIGHTON.—Frequent Trains from Victoria and London Bridge.

Also Trains in connection from Kensington and Liverpool-street.  
Return Tickets, London to Brighton, available for eight days. Weekly, Fortnightly, and Monthly Tickets at cheap rates, available to travel by all Trains between London and Brighton.  
Cheap First-class Day Tickets to Brighton every Weekday, from Victoria, 10.0 a.m. Fare, 12s. 6d., including Pullman Car.  
Cheap Half-Guinea First-class Day Tickets to Brighton every Saturday, from Victoria and London Bridge, admitting to the Grand Aquarium and Royal Pavilion.  
Cheap First-class Day Tickets to Brighton every Sunday, from Victoria at 10.15 a.m. and 12.50 p.m. Fare, 10s.  
Pullman Drawing-Room Cars between Victoria and Brighton.  
Through bookings to Brighton from principal Stations on the Railways in the Northern and Midland Districts.

## PARIS.—SHORTEST, CHEAPEST ROUTE.—Via

NEWHAVEN, DIEPPE, and ROUEN.  
Weekday Tidal Special Express Service (1st and 2nd Class). Night Service Week-days and Sundays (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class). From Victoria, 7.50 p.m., and London Bridge, 8.0 p.m.  
Fares—Single, 33s., 24s., 17s.; Return, 51s., 39s., 30s.  
The Normandy and Brittany, Splendid Fast Paddle Steamers, accomplish the Passage between Newhaven and Dieppe frequently in about 3½ hours.  
A Through Conductor will accompany the Passengers by the Special Day Service throughout to Paris, and vice versa.  
Trains run alongside steamers at Newhaven and Dieppe.

TICKETS and every information at the Brighton Company's West-End General Offices, 24, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, and 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar-square; City Office, Hay's Agency, Cornhill; Cook's, Ludgate-circus; also at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations.  
(By order) J. P. KNIERT, General Manager.

## ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS

IN WATER COLOURS, PICCADILLY, W.

THE SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION NOW OPEN, from Nine a.m. to Six p.m.

ADMISSION, 1s. Illustrated Catalogue, 1s. Season Tickets, 5s. ALFRED EVERILL, Sec. (pro tem.)

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORÉ'S Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW on VIEW at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six Daily. 1s.

ANNO DOMINI, by EDWIN LONG, R.A.—This great Work is now ON VIEW, together with Commemorative CISERTI'S Picture of CHRIST BORNE TO THE TOMB, and other important works, at the GALERIES, 168, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

## ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

See opinions of all the leading daily and weekly papers on the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.

"Times," "Standard," "Daily News," "Post," "Advertiser," "Chronicle" of April 15; "Lloyd's," "Weekly Times," "News of the World," "Era," &c., &c.  
Great success of the new Artists, Mr. TOM WARD, Major BURK.  
The New Comic Sketch of the DUDES AND DUDESSES.EVERY NIGHT at Eight.  
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS, Three and Eight.  
Fautouls, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. No fees of any kind. Doors open at 2.30 and 7.30. Tickets and Places at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall.MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.  
Managers, Messrs. Alfred Reed and Corney Grain.—A MOSS ROSE RENT (last representations), written by Arthur Law, Music by Alfred J. Caldicott: after which a New Musical Sketch by Mr. Corney Grain, entitled A LITTLE DINNER. Concluding with A DOUBLE EVENING, written by Arthur Law and Alfred Reed; Music by Corney Grain.—MORNING PERFORMANCES every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three; EVENINGS, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Eight. Admission, 1s. and 2s.; Stalls, 2s. and 5s.; Booking Office open from Ten to Six. No charge for Booking. ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place.

MASKELYNE and COOKE.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Every Afternoon at Three, and in the Evenings (at Eight) of Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. In addition to the great Illusory Sensations so successful before closing for structural alterations, PSYCHO'S NEW MYSTERIES are introduced at every performance. Box-Office open Daily, and Seats can be booked at all the Libraries Stalls, 5s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Doors open at 2.30 and 7.30. Carriages at Five and Ten. W. MORTON, Manager.



## ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

I had the honour to be acquainted, many years ago, with a country gentleman—his house was not a hundred miles distant from Burton-on-Trent—who rejoiced in the soundest Conservative principles, and who was accustomed to remark that he did not often drink port wine, but that when he did drink it, "he liked it stiff." I can say the same, in degree, concerning money. It is very seldom that I have any, worth speaking of; but when I do possess a little cash I like it sound. With all kinds of currency, both metallic and papyraceous, have I had to do. "Greenbacks;" Confederate "shin-plasters;" Russian paper roubles; Mexican doubloons—brave coins those, weighing an ounce a piece; Italian "corso forzoso" paper lire, Austrian paper florins and kreutzers, the defunct nastinesses of Prussian thalers; French napoleons and francs; Greek drachmas, Danish rigsdalers, Spanish duros and pesetas; but for real "honest" money give me, first, the English bank-note, "which, tested by the touch, gives out a crisp, crackling, sharp music, which resounds from no other quires;" and, next, those two splendid gold coins, the English sovereign and half sovereign.

The integrity of the last-named is, I am grieved and horror-stricken to perceive, threatened. There is, it appears, a good deal of light gold in circulation; and to cover the cost of calling in this deficient coin and re-coining it, the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to issue as moieties of the pound sterling what will purport to be ten shillings sterling, but which will in reality contain only nine shillings. Oh! Right Honourable Childers, Right Honourable Childers; was it for this that I would have voted for you at the last General Election if I had had a vote for Pontefract, and if I had not been on board the Cunard s.s. Hecla, in mid-Atlantic, when the Election took place, and if I ever voted for anybody, anywhere? The gold coinage of the realm, if the cruel Childers is to have his will, is to be debased—degraded to the level of a tradesman's token.

It is not to be "sweated," Lord Randolph Churchill. His Lordship intends to oppose the Chancellor's project tooth and nail, and has written a capital letter to the *Times* eloquently denouncing the ten-shilling-piece outrage. But we should be accurate in our technology, nevertheless. "Sweating" means the diminishing, by some mechanical process, the weight of a coin; and the operation is performed either by filing or by shaking the coins violently in a bag of leather or horsehair, so that the fraudulent shaker may "benefit by the perspiration," i.e., the minute particles of precious metal detached by continuous attrition of the coins. But Lord Randolph will doubtless do yeoman's service in smiting this monstrous proposal hip and thigh. The adulteration of almost every kind of commodity continues to be shamefully common; and I should say that the lieges—notably the working-class lieges—will vehemently protest against the cool proposal to adulterate their half-sovereigns. "*Haro! Haro! Haro! A l'aide, oh, mon Prince; on me fait tort.*" That (in Channel Island fashion) should be the cry of each and every one of the lieges to the Duchess of Normandy—that is, to the Queen—if the plan of debasing her bonny half-sovereign be persisted in.

Mem.: Should you object to the lieges addressing the Duchess of Normandy as "Mon Prince," I may remind you that when the Hungarian magnates drew their swords and swore to defend the cause of Maria Theresa, their cry was "Morianur pro Rege nostro."

It is always unsafe to prophesy until after the event; but I may venture on a slight forecast of what would take place under an infliction of ten-shilling pieces. There would be an immediate forestalling and regrating of sovereigns, which would, to a great extent, disappear from ordinary circulation. There would be an uproar in the kitchen, and servants would rebel, if they were paid their wages in "them ten-shilling bits." Lord Randolph Churchill has already most cogently pointed out that speculators would buy up five-pound notes with ten-shilling pieces, worth only four pounds ten, and get five pounds apiece for them at the Bank. Then the theatrical managers would probably charge eleven instead of ten shillings for a stall; and railway tickets (when the fare was half a sovereign) and bottles of tavern champagne would be proportionately surcharged.

The idea of debasing the gold coinage of the realm is not by any means new; but in modern times no British Government has been unprincipled enough to countenance such a proceeding. In an article on "The Rights of Industry and the Banking System," in the *Quarterly Review* for July, 1832, I read—

Next to a direct increase in the supply of metal, the most obvious resource seems to be to augment the efficacy of that which we possess by a degradation of the standard—in other words, by diminishing the intrinsic value of the coinage; cutting, for example, our sovereigns, shillings, and other pieces of money into two or more parts, which should by law retain the nominal value of the whole. This is, in substance, the proposal which seems to find most favour with the persons who have spoken or written on the subject of the currency for some years past. . . . It is to this to which Mr. Weston, and a large body of agriculturists, have long been pointing as the only practicable mode of permitting them to come to an equitable adjustment with their creditors public and private. It is, indeed, a mode of "adjustment" not wanting in precedents, having over and over again been resorted to by faithless Governments when, to enable the State to discharge its debts by a less value than was originally stipulated, every private debtor has had permission given to him to defraud those by whom he has been trusted. But those examples have not tended to encourage its adoption.

The *Economist* is against the ten-shilling piece outrage; the *Bullionist* is against it; Mr. Hubbard is against it; but Lord Randolph Churchill's hands (more power to his elbow in this particular conflict) will be strengthened if *Punch* have a good, right-down, straight-from-the-shoulder-hitting ballad against the threatened "bogus" money. By a curious coincidence, there has just been published a little collection, by Mr. Alfred Perceval Graves, of "Songs of Irish Wit and Humour" (Chatto and Windus); and in this divert-

ing little volume I find (p. 297) "A New Song on Wood's Halfpence," written, you will remember, by a very illustrious Irishman, Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's: I commend the two following stanzas both to *Punch* and Mr. Childers, as a model to the former and as a warning to the other:—

The farmer who comes with his rent in this cash,  
For taking these counters, and being so rash,  
Will be kicked out of doors, both himself and his trash  
Which nobody can deny.

For in all the leases that ever we hold,  
We must pay our rent in good silver and gold,  
And not in brass tokens of such a base mould,  
Which nobody can deny.

Mem.: I hold it to be the bounden duty of every friend of honest money, as against "bogus" tokens, to re-read, morning, noon, and night, the immortal "Drapiers' Letters," until the Chancellor of the Exchequer be, financially speaking, put to confusion and brought very low. Even if Mr. Childers's pernicious scheme be carried out, the friends of sound cash who follow my advice and read the "Drapiers" will profit not a little thereby. They will have renewed their acquaintance with some of the most vigorous pieces of invective and the raciest outbursts of humour in the English language.

Thanks to the courtesy of my correspondents, I hope to be able to know, in time, a considerable number of things; although, alas! so far as I am personally concerned, I am of the opinion of the pessimist whom I lately quoted in this page, who wrote, "We learn so little, and forget so much." Still, although my own memory may play me false, younger readers may profit by the information kindly vouchsafed to me by "J.G." (Haverstock-hill), who, in reply to my query touching the derivation of the term "Brown Bess" for a soldier's musket, refers me to a work entitled "Word Gossip" (Longmans, 1869), by the Rev. W. L. Blackley, M.A.

In "Word Gossip" it is stated that "Brown" is mainly an alliterative epithet, and that "Bess" is the equivalent of the German "büchse," a box, a rifle gun; the French "buse," a tube; the Flemish "buis." We see its use still in the word "blunderbuss" (probably "thunderbuss") and "arquebuss," &c. "Brown Bess" was in common use when the infantry soldier's firearm was a flintlock musket. Is the modern rifle still called "Brown Bess"?

Another equally polite and distinguished correspondent (Alexandra Hotel), while admitting his inability to explain why the generic name for a sailor should be "Jack," favours me with the anecdote to the effect that, in the old days of Thames wherries, there was, at each landing-place, a ragged individual called "Jack in the Water." "Why are you called 'Jack in the Water'?" asked a gentleman who was landing from a boat. "'Cause my name's Jim, and I help the gemmen to land," was the prompt reply. I think that I can "cap" my distinguished correspondent's story by one related to me more than forty years ago. "Why are you called watermen?" asked a gentleman of an attendant on a cab-stand. "*Beccos ve hopens the 'ackney-coach doors,*" was the reply. *Les beaux esprits se rencontrent.*

"H. D. C.," R.N. (Devonport), asks "which is the more correct of the two following remarks in speaking of persons at sea? We sailors say, 'Harry is in the Excellent.' 'Harry is on board the Excellent.' Well; try it by the test of analogy. The French talk of a person being *sur un navire*—on a ship." There is the famous case in point of the letter which so puzzled the "blind" clerk in the Returned Letter Department of the Paris Post Office. "Jacques Untel, Sultan Crete, Méditerranée." It was at length discovered that the letter was intended for a sailor on "Sur le Tancrède," a ship in the French Mediterranean squadron. But then, you see, I do not know whether Jacques Untel's correspondent was a nautical party or a land-lubber.

Mem.: My Devonport correspondent sends me a cutting from a Hampshire paper, containing a poem on the woes of a modern lady school-teacher, oppressed with over-work, and a plethora of official forms to fill up. The poem is very touching; but it is, unfortunately, too long for any quotation which would do justice to its merits.

In the matter of the melody (not the words) of "Home, Sweet Home," "J.S." (Woodbridge) tells me that he perfectly recollects having heard Sir Henry R. Bishop, in one of his Lectures on Music, delivered more than thirty years ago, remark that he should have been thoroughly well satisfied had he to rest his fame on "Home, Sweet Home," which he considered to be his best composition. It was a Miss Thornton, if my correspondent's memory serves him aright, who sang "Home, Sweet Home," to Sir Henry's exquisite accompaniment; and the lecture was given in the old Assembly Room of the Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells. I have had not a few abusive letters with reference to my assertion that Sir Henry R. Bishop was the composer (not the adapter) of the melody of "Home, Sweet Home." Will it be contended, now, that he told a falsehood at Tunbridge Wells?

The Honorary Secretaries of the Funeral Reform Association have written to the papers to say how very grateful they are "for the excellent example set at the burial of the late Bishop of Ripon. The coffin was borne to the hearse by sons and other near relatives; only relatives and immediate friends assembled at the house of mourning; heads were uncovered as the procession passed; humble friends bore the coffin from the hearse into the church, and thence to the grave; the grave was adorned with flowers, ivy, and moss. The whole ceremonial was marked by extreme simplicity."

I have a few words to say with regard to this self-satisfied statement. In the first place, the use of flowers at funerals leads to a great deal of simply shameful extravagance.

Against your womankind in the matter of funeral flowers it is next to the impossible to struggle; but you are not the less uneasily conscious that every guinea that you expend in a mortuary wreath or cross would have been much better employed had it been given to the poor.

Touching "heads being uncovered as the procession passed," I fail to remember a period when it was not customary for decent people (members of the Society of Friends, of course, excepted, and I applaud their steadfast adherence to their principles in this respect) to lift the hat when a corpse passed by. The poorest labouring man pays so much respect to death; and his fathers did so before him, long before there was any Funeral Reform Association to teach them manners. But, on the other hand, it would be a most blessed boon if (without being lectured by any Association whatever) Society amicably agreed that heads should *not* be uncovered while the body of our dear brother or sister departed is being borne to the grave, and while the body is being actually committed thereto. Standing uncovered in a cemetery often, on a cold or rainy day, means to elderly people bronchial troubles, and very often congestion and inflammation of the lungs. I wish that some physician in large practice would keep a register of the number of colds caught at funerals within his cognizance which have ended fatally.

In the last place, I hold it to be altogether uncalled-for and impertinent that the public should be told by any association whatever how they should be buried. That is a matter which we leave to our families or our executors; and we generally contrive to let them know beforehand in what manner we desire to be interred. If we are to have handsome weddings and handsome christenings, I do not see why we should not have handsome funerals. The dead they cannot possibly affect one way or the other; but they are a compliment to the living. I know by heart all the hackneyed arguments that can be adduced against expensive funerals—the extravagance, the ostentation, the "mockery of woe," and so forth; still, it is singular to remark that the agitation for the "reform" of funerals in the direction of stinginess seems to emanate from people who have plenty of money; while it is the very poor who most cheerfully suffer privation in order that those they love may be laid to earth in a comely manner. Moreover, funerals properly "performed" do good to trade. Undertakers have, I apprehend, as much right to live as other people have. I have had (*cheu!*) in my time, a great deal to do with undertakers; and have found them very civil, accommodating, and fair-dealing persons.

Mem.: Much of the pother that is made in favour of wealthy folk being buried as though they were not worth twopence-halfpenny, springs from Charles Dickens's well-known definition of a funeral as "a masquerade dipped in ink." Well; I have known some fashionable weddings that have turned out to be the veriest masquerades—only dipped in whitewash and garnished with Brussels lace and orange-blossoms.

Was not the marital title of the enchanting danseuse, Marie Taglioni, who, at the great age of eighty, is just dead, Madame La Comtesse Gilbert des Voisins? Unless I am much mistaken, I have several letters from her signed in that name; but in the majority of the obituary notices which I have read of her the deceased "Sylphide" is spoken of as the Countess de Voisin. And why have nearly all the papers concurred in speaking of the delightful and still living (born in 1821) Madame St. Léon as Cerito, when her maiden name was Cerrito? Tom Ingoldsby, you will remember, in his inimitable chant "A Row in an Omnibus (Box)," took even a stranger liberty with the name of the fascinating Francesca, more frequently called Fanny Cerrito:

Ma'am'selle Cherrytoes shook to her very toes  
She couldn't hop on, so hopp'd off on her very toes.

The last time that I saw Taglioni dance was at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, about 1846, I should say. Mr. Hooper was the manager. The prices were doubled on the Taglioni night; and there was need for the augmentation, for the "Sylphide" (there were "Sylphide" omnibuses and "Taglioni" coats) was paid a hundred and twenty pounds for her night's performance.

The last public (but not professional) appearance of Madame la Comtesse Gilbert des Voisins in England was at the Mansion House "Literature and Art" banquet during the memorable Mayoralty of Sir Andrew Lusk. It was a night! And there were three Queens of Song, too, at Lord Mayor Lusk's hospitable board: Titiens, Nilsson, and Patti. The last time that I had the honour to meet Madame Taglioni in private was at a garden-party given by Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) at Shepherd's Bush.

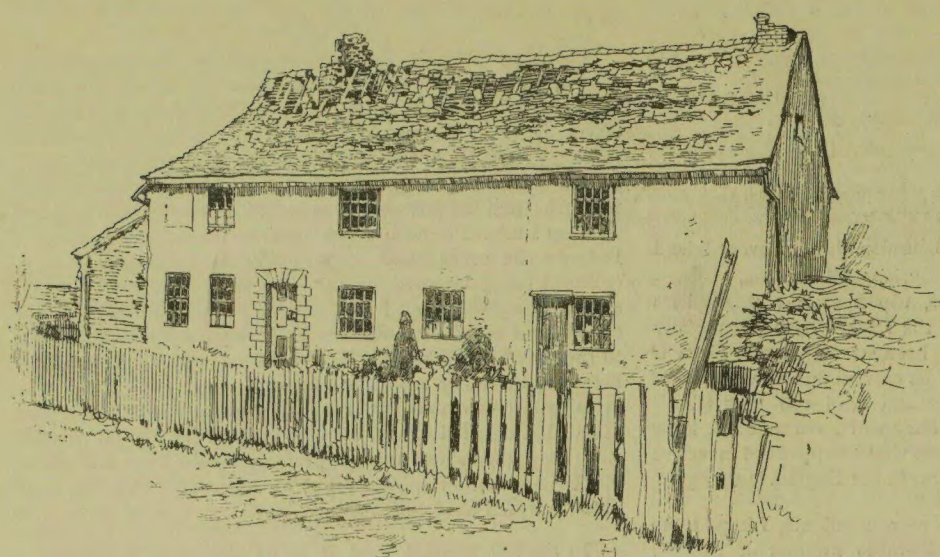
The *St. James's Gazette* has a well-told story of how Taglioni, dining one night at Milan with General Walmoden, saw the Polka danced by fifty Hungarian grenadiers, and how she was "immensely pleased" with the dance, "took it up, introduced it wherever she went, and it has maintained its popularity, more or less, ever since." I gravely doubt whether Taglioni had much to do with popularising the polka. As a ballet dance its reign was not very long lived. It was a heel-and-toe, arms-akimbo, face-to-face, back-to-back, shuffle-and-step dance (Webster and Celeste danced it on the English stage), not so picturesque as the Cracovienne, and not so graceful as the Cachuca. The polka which, to use the words of the *St. James's Gazette*, has given "pleasure to millions of our fellow-creatures," is the drawing-room polka perfected some forty years since by the celebrated Parisian dancing-master Celarius. See "La Danse des Salons," illustrated by Gavarni, Paris, 1849.

My esteemed editor, beset by many "pages in waiting," which he tells me can positively wait no longer for insertion, has begged me to hold over the "Playhouses" until next week. Deferring to his request, I must content myself with simply recording the fact that on Monday, the 28th ult., Mr. Lawrence Barrett made a highly successful appearance at the Lyceum in "Richelieu." Until next week, then, I postpone criticism on a most remarkable and meritorious performance.

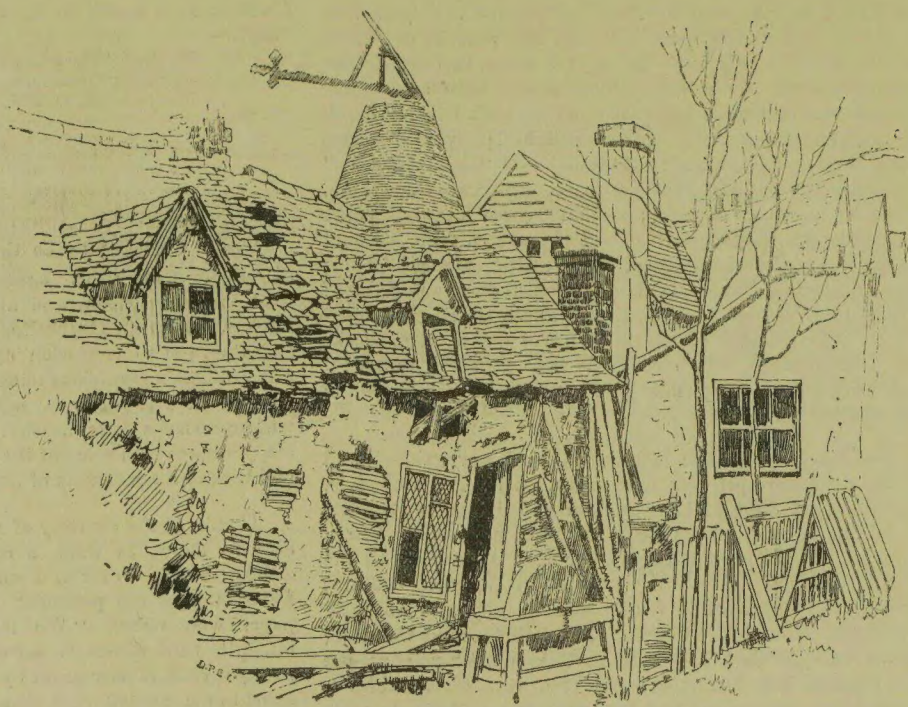
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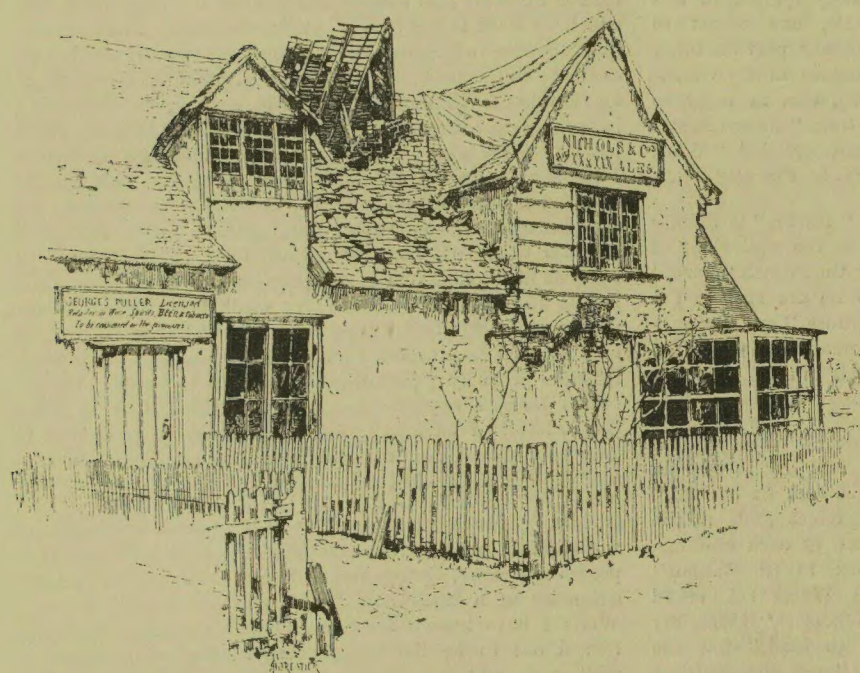
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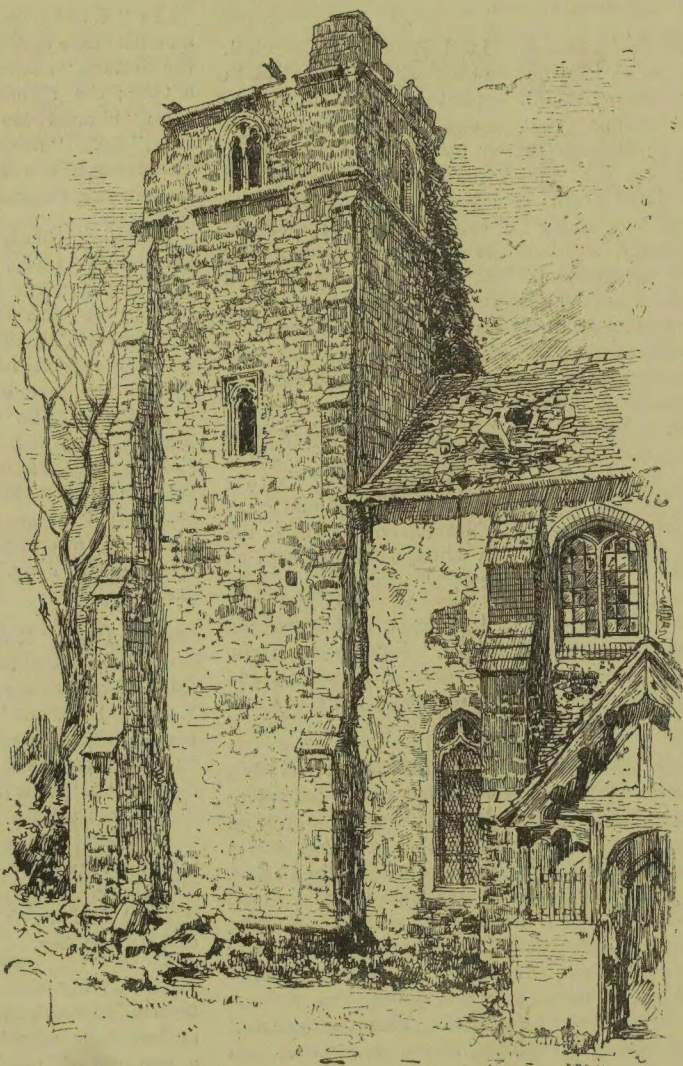
COTTAGE, ABBERTON.



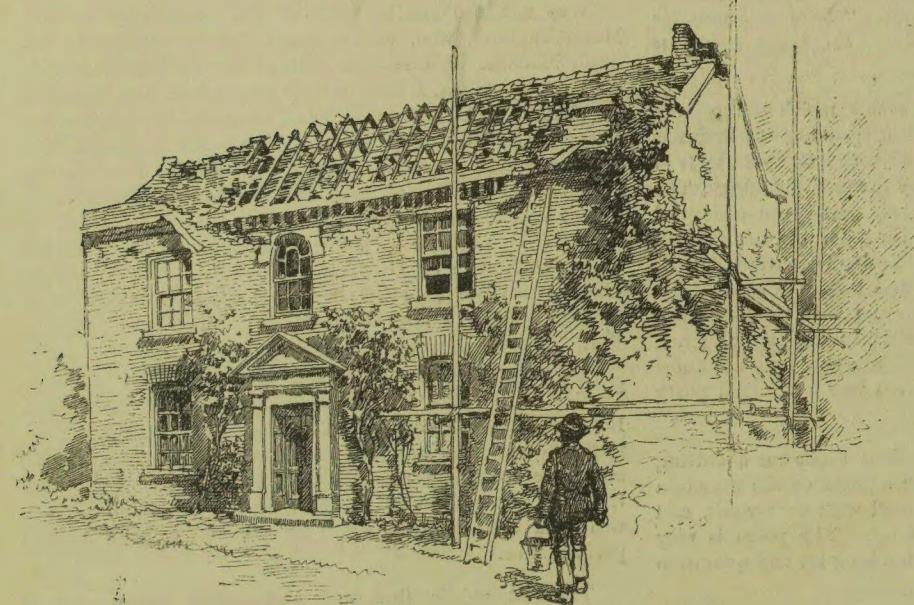
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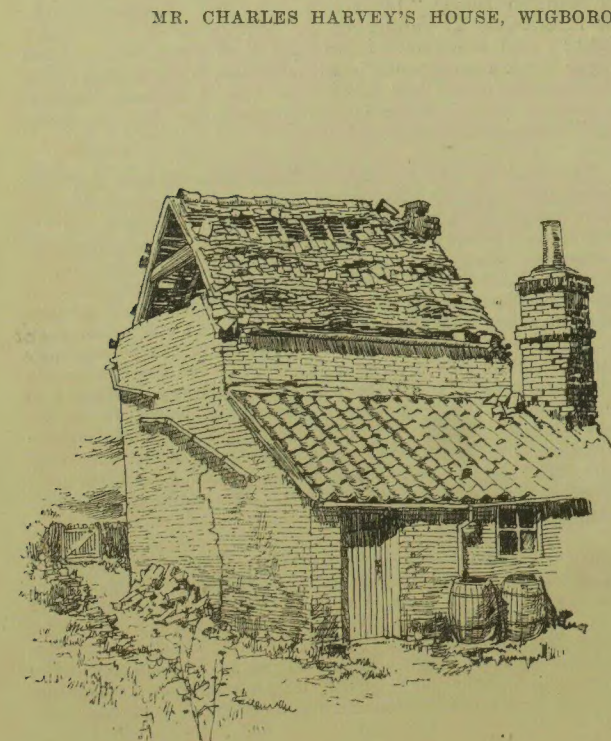
PUBLIC-HOUSE, PELDON ROSE.



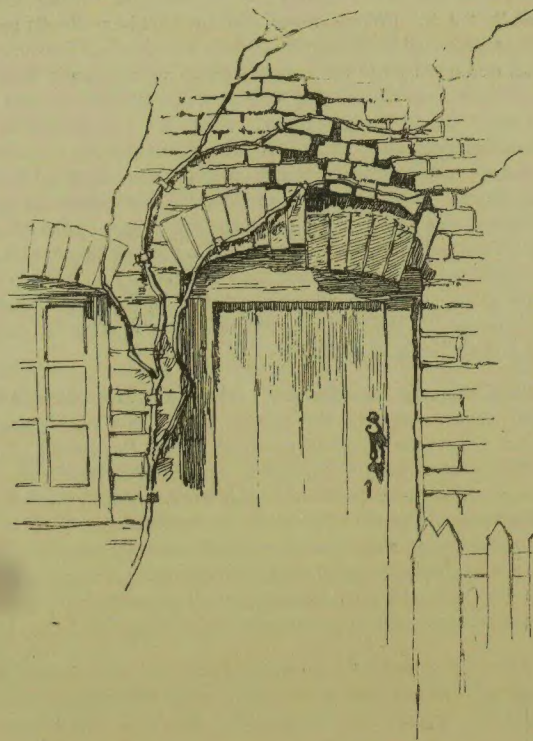
PARISH CHURCH, PELDON.



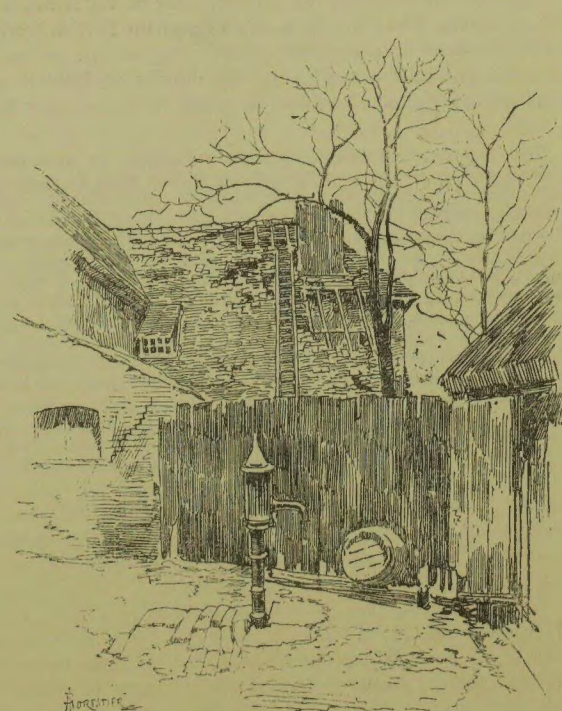
MR. CHARLES HARVEY'S HOUSE, WIGBOROUGH.



COTTAGE, PELDON ROSE.



DOORWAY OF COTTAGE, PELDON ROSE.



MR. NELSON'S, WIG FARM, LANGENHOE.





PRINCESS VICTORIA OF HESSE IN HER WEDDING DRESS.

## THE WEDDING AT DARMSTADT.

The marriage of our Queen's grand-daughter, Princess Victoria of Hesse-Darmstadt, to Prince Louis of Battenberg, was celebrated last Wednesday, in the presence of her Majesty, of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, and other members and relatives of the Royal Family, but in a private manner, and with less festivities than might have been appropriate to such an occasion, the Queen being prevented from sharing in them by her recent severe bereavement and her deep mourning for the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany.

The small German town which is the capital of the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt takes its name from the little river Darm, at the foot of the Odenwald hills, so picturesque in their woodland beauty, and rich in many a legend. The entrance to the town from the railway station is by the Rhein-strasse, a fine street of unusual breadth, which leads in one straight line to the Grand Ducal Palace, a solid, handsome old structure, surrounded by a pleasure garden, with a high wall round it. Much simplicity, combined with good taste, is displayed in the interior. One handsome reception-room,

called the "Yellow Chamber," is decorated with amber-coloured furniture; hangings, carpet, and everything appertaining to the room, being of this rich soft yellow. The late Grand Duchess's favourite boudoir was sky-blue throughout. The walls were divided into panels of pale blue satin, the satin of each panel being gracefully drawn together in the centre, and fastened with rich blue silk cord. The ceiling was covered with folds of the same material, as well as couches, chairs, and hangings to match. In the centre of the room was a graceful arrangement of marble and ferns, from which sprang, high into the air, a bubbling fountain. The town of Darmstadt possesses a first-rate college for boys, frequently attended by English boys. Amongst the chief attractions of Darmstadt are its beautiful gardens, belonging to the different palaces. The Herrngarten, with its broad walks, glorious lawns, fine old trees, and miniature lakes, is one of these. Another is the Bessungergarten attached to one of the smaller palaces in the suburbs of Bessungen. These gardens are open to the public from early morning till late at night, and were it not that here and there a solitary sentinel may be seen upon his rounds they might be taken for public pleasure grounds. Into them the hosts of

children, let loose from their morning and afternoon schools, armed with their dinner and playthings, pour themselves, and gambol and eat at pleasure. The streets of Darmstadt—although, alas! like most Continental towns, not free from unpleasant odours—are clean and bright, and the town is a very healthy one, owing to the entire absence of smoke as well as of overcrowding, there being not a single factory in the place. There is a forest in the immediate vicinity, where the wild boar is often hunted. A charming spot in the environs, within walking distance of the town, is the so-called Rosenhöhe, an eminence, as its name indicates, covered with woods, though it scarcely can be said to be now famous for its roses. It is the favourite resort of picnic lovers. Here, too, once or twice a week, the band of some regiment plays during the afternoon and evening, and many a merry dance is here enjoyed. The late beloved Grand Duchess, our Princess Alice, is entombed at Rosenhöhe.

On Tuesday night, the eve of the Princely Wedding, there was a performance of Mackenzie's opera, "Colomba," at the Darmstadt Court Theatre. It was attended by the Grand Duke and Princess Victoria, with her family, Prince Louis of Battenberg, his father, the Prince of Battenberg, and his



brother, Prince Alexander of Bulgaria, but none of the English or Prussian Princes were present. On the arrival of the future bride and bridegroom, the Burgomaster of the town rose and said—"The day whose eve we are celebrating will be a day of high honour and joy to the whole of the reigning House and to this loyal Residence-town. Let us express our sympathy by the cry of 'Long live the august bridal pair!'" This speech was received with much enthusiasm by a crowded house, the band playing the National Hymn. After the performance a festival supper was given in the Palace on the Luisenplatz, which was richly decorated and illuminated. A torchlight procession followed, organised by the combined musical societies of Darmstadt, and several favourite songs were sung. The singers, together with a deputation from the Town Council, were afterwards invited into the Palace and thanked. The Queen was at the other Palace. In the afternoon, Princess Victoria received a deputation of girls from the High School, who presented her with a magnificent basket of flowers, which the Princess accepted, signifying her desire that the school should henceforth be known as the Victoria School.

We shall be enabled next week to give a fuller account of the proceedings at the wedding ceremony, which took place in the Grand Ducal Palace Chapel at half-past four on Wednesday afternoon. The officiating Lutheran clergyman is the same who baptized Princess Victoria at Windsor twenty-one years ago. Immediately before the religious ceremony the obligatory civil contract was signed in the assembly-room of the Palace, before the Minister of State, Baron Von Starck, as Minister of the Grand Ducal Household, and in the presence of the Royal and princely guests—her Majesty the Queen and Princess Beatrice, the Grand Duke of Hesse, and the Dowager Grand Duchess, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, with Prince Henry and the Princesses Charlotte (of Saxe-Meiningen) and Victoria, Prince Alexander of Hesse, the Prince and Princess Battenberg, Prince and Princess Leiningen, and others. The religious ceremony was followed by a wedding banquet in the Imperial Hall of the Residential Palace; but the ball at the Casino, the State Concert, and the other festivities were abandoned in consequence of the Court mourning. For this reason also the list of invited guests was restricted to the nearest relatives on both sides. The Queen would not be present at the wedding banquet, which was fixed for six o'clock in the evening. After this banquet, the bride and bridegroom would go for their honeymoon to the Heiligenberg Castle at Jugenheim. The Castle formerly belonged to the late Empress of Russia, who bequeathed it to Prince Alexander. It is a place which was frequently visited both by Prince Louis and Princess Victoria when they were children. After the honeymoon Prince Louis will return to England to resume his Naval duties. The newly-married couple will reside at Sennicotts, near Chichester, which has been taken for them for eighteen months.

We present an illustration of the bride's wedding dress. The lamented death of her uncle, the Duke of Albany, caused many changes in the preliminary arrangements, and, among others, in the toilettes of the bride, her sisters, and near relatives. These ladies had their bodices cut high behind and square in front, instead of being low. Princess Victoria's dress was of rich white satin, with a train nearly two yards long, and trimmed with a deep flounce of Honiton point-lace, the pattern being one of roses and orange-blossom intermingled with myrtle. The lace on the square corsage and sleeves was of the same pattern, but narrower. Her wreath was of orange-flowers, with the myrtle, which is indispensable to a German bride; and from it fell the rich folds of her square Honiton point veil, with handsome groups of orange-blossoms, myrtle, and roses in each corner, which was so arranged as not to cover or conceal her face. Her jewels were pearls of great beauty.

There were no bridesmaids, but the sisters of the bride were in attendance. Princess Elizabeth (Ella) and Princess Irene were charming dresses of white gauze with white satin stripes, square corsages, and elbow sleeves. The little Princess Victoria Alice, who is not yet twelve years old, was dressed in a white skirt with tunic and bodice of the white spotted gauze that is now so fashionable. All the ladies of the English Royal family wore white, with the exception of her Majesty, who never leaves off her black garb, though at the weddings of her children she allows it to be relieved with rich white lace. Had it not been for her recent bereavement, her Majesty would have worn a rich black silk with silver threads woven into the warp, on this occasion. The ladies of the Court of Hesse-Darmstadt appeared in low dresses of various colours, as the period of mourning was over for them.

The wedding presents have been on view at the New Palace. The Queen gives two stars of diamonds and pearls, for the hair, a silver tea-service, and some Indian shawls. The Prince of Wales presents a splendid dinner service, designed by Mr. W. J. Goode, of South Audley-street. The border is of royal blue and gold, with the initials of the bride and bridegroom entwined on the rim. Princess Beatrice, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the Duke and Duchess of Albany, combine to present a dessert service, also designed by Mr. Goode—of turquoise and gold, with an oval medallion of turquoise, on which, in white roses, are the entwined initials of the bride and bridegroom. This stands near a spray of flowers, each spray varying in design throughout the service.

Notice is given in the *Gazette* that her Majesty's birthday will be kept on Saturday, the 24th inst.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar has been presented with a magnificent centre-piece by the Royal Portsmouth Corinthian Yacht Club, upon his quitting the command of the southern district. Prince Edward has been Vice-Commodore of the club since its commencement.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge began the sale of the concluding portion of the Hamilton Palace libraries on Thursday. The number of lots to be offered is 2136, and the catalogue extends over a volume of 150 closely printed pages. Mr. Beckford's collection has already been disposed of, and realised £73,551. The sale is to extend over eight days.

Miss Edmiston's matinee will take place at the Opéra Comique next Wednesday, when Miss Fanny Kemble's adaptation of Alexander Dumas's drama "Mlle. de Belle-Isle" will be performed, with a powerful cast. The matinee will conclude with a comédietta by Paileron, entitled "L'Autre Motif," which will be played in French.

There were 2807 births and 1660 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 9 and the deaths were 19 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 12 from smallpox, 95 from measles, 30 from scarlet fever, 17 from diphtheria, 117 from whooping-cough, 3 from typhus, 15 from enteric fever, 6 from dysentery, and 2 from simple cholera. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 285 and 318 in the two previous weeks, further rose last week to 327, but were 61 below the corrected weekly average.

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

With the exception of another victory gained by Whipper-In, who has done the Kingsclere stable yeoman service this spring, the programme on Tuesday at Newmarket was of the most uninteresting description, and we may safely pass on to the Two Thousand Guineas. The feature of the betting at the close was the advance of Superba, and finally there was little to choose between her, Scot Free, and Royal Fern, whilst Harvester went from bad to worse, and 20 to 1 was on offer against him at the fall of the flag. This was dropped precisely at three o'clock, and when they had settled down Harvester occupied a position in the centre of the course, and was followed on the left by Scot Free, with Superba and St. Medard next, while also on the left, lying well up, came Sister to Adelaide colt and Royal Fern, the right division comprising Beauchamp, Hermitage, and Prince Rudolph. The last-named was soon done with, and dropped into the rear. Half-way across the flat Scot Free took up the running, followed by Harvester, Superba, St. Medard, Royal Fern, and Sister to Adelaide colt, the others, thus early in the race, being out of the fray. Descending the Bushes hill Scot Free increased his lead, and, coming away at every stride, won in a canter by five lengths from St. Medard, who only beat the despised Harvester by a head for second place: Superba, close up, was fourth; Beauchamp, fifth; Hermitage, sixth; Royal Fern, seventh; Sister to Adelaide colt eighth; and Doncaster Cup last. Scot Free thus won in exactly the same style that his sire Macgregor did in 1870, and, curiously enough, by precisely the same distance. The latter horse has given us many fair winners, but has never had a really high-class representative until now. It is fortunate for the owners of other candidates that Scot Free has no engagement in the Derby, and, even at this distance of time, the St. Leger looks quite at his mercy. Harvester, after all, ran far better than was anticipated, and Superba did fairly well, but Royal Fern, a very uncertain customer, put up miserably badly.

Though there was a capital attendance at Sandown Park last week, the sport was hardly of the usual class provided at this very favourite resort, and may be dismissed in a few lines. The two-year-old element was not represented by any very startling performer, the colt by Kisher—North Wind, who secured the Walton Plate, being probably the best of an indifferent lot; but there was nothing with much pretensions to class in the eleven that finished behind him. Perhaps the most important event decided during the three days was the Esher Stakes, in which The Lambkin (8 st. 7 lb.), who had all the worst of the weights with his seven opponents, won so easily, in the hands of Archer, that he must have cut a far better figure in the City and Suburban but for the fact that he is a most awkward colt for a boy to ride. Steeple-chasing and hurdle-racing are decidedly out of season just now, especially with the ground as hard as it was last week; nevertheless, the events confined to the illegitimate performers were fairly well patronised. In the Great Sandown Hurdle-Race, Marc Antony (12 st. 6 lb.) and Phantom (12 st.) fought their Kempton Park battle over again, and a 19 lb. pull in the weights enabled the latter to beat his conqueror very cleverly. The Liverpool form was not enhanced by the result of the Grand International Steeplechase, for Roquefort (11 st. 8 lb.) had little or no chance with the penalised Saville (11 st. 7 lb.), who must be a far better chaser than has been generally supposed. Satellite (10 st. 10 lb.) and Cortolvin (10 st. 7 lb.) again cut up very indifferently, and Count Kinsky had a nasty fall from Kilworth (10 st. 10 lb.), by which his nose and one of his arms were broken.

It goes without saying that there was a tremendous attendance at Newmarket on Monday, when Messrs. Tattersall disposed of Lord Falmouth's horses in training, and the prices realised were really wonderful in these hard times. It was a near thing between Busybody and Harvester, Mr. Baird giving 8800 gs. for the filly, whilst Sir John Willoughby paid only 200 gs. less for the colt. With twenty-five rich engagements, many of which she can scarcely lose, Busybody should prove a remunerative purchase; but we consider Harvester a very bad bargain, and we write this quite irrespective of the rumour that he showed to little advantage in a rough gallop on Tuesday morning. The two-year-olds also sold remarkably well, Louisbourg, by Hampton—Chevisaunce (4000 gs.); Armida, a half-sister to Galliard, by Childeric—Mavis (3200 gs.); Cocoonut, by Silvio—Palmflower (2500 gs.); and Esther Faa, by Skylark—Wheel of Fortune (2200 gs.), making the longest prices. Altogether, the twenty-four realised no less than 36,420 gs., an amount that will in all probability be more than doubled by the sale of the breeding stud, which will take place during the July week.

The great feature of the London Athletic Club Meeting last Saturday was another wonderful performance by W. G. George, who ran two miles in 9 min. 17 2-5 sec., by far the fastest amateur time on record. George is sanguine that he will improve even on this, and lower the record of 9 min. 11 sec., made by W. Lang, the once famous professional.

On Monday evening W. J. Peall won another American Billiard Tournament, promoted by the Royal Aquarium Company, after a tie with W. Mitchell. These men will give an exhibition of billiards at the Aquarium this (Saturday) afternoon and evening.

The supporters of St. Mary's Hospital will dine together next Wednesday at the Freemasons' Tavern, Lord Carlingford in the chair.

The International Health Exhibition, South Kensington, will be opened next Thursday at noon by the Duke of Cambridge. This exhibition will illustrate health and education.

The Postmaster-General will to-day (Saturday) publicly dedicate the drinking-fountain erected upon Hackney-downs to the memory of the late Mr. George Gowland.

Under the presidency of the Duke of Cambridge, the festival dinner of the Female Orphan Asylum was held on Tuesday, when the donations amounted to over £1000.

The Metropolitan Rifle Meeting was opened on Tuesday at the Government ranges on Wormwood-scrubbs, and some excellent shooting was witnessed.

The Fisk University Jubilee Singers from Nashville, Tennessee, who have arrived on a third visit to this country, gave a concert on Tuesday evening at Exeter Hall.

Sir John Monckton, acting as temporary Coroner for the City, held an inquest yesterday week on the bodies of the three young women who were burnt to death at the fire of the Bell Hotel, in the Old Bailey, on the previous Wednesday. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, adding that they attached no blame to anyone.

Mr. George Godwin, in presiding at an annual meeting of the Art Union of London on Tuesday, pointed out that it had spent more than £500,000 in aiding art. The prizes this year, graduating from £100 down to £10, numbered 605, including thirty silver medals of Sir Gilbert Scott, R.A. The first prize was won by A. H. Gardner, of Folkestone, and the second by H. J. Saunders, Rock Fawr.

## MUSIC.

The chief events of the week have been the production of Mr. C. V. Stanford's new opera, "The Canterbury Pilgrims," by the Carl Rosa Opera Company, at Drury-Lane Theatre, and the opening of a new season of the Royal Italian Opera Company at Covent-Garden Theatre. The occasion first alluded to occurred on Monday evening.

The book of Mr. Stanford's opera is by Mr. Gilbert à Beckett, who has not borrowed his materials from Chaucer, but merely taken the notion of a fourteenth-century pilgrimage as the basis for the assemblage of some strongly-contrasted characters, the plot turning on the love of a London apprentice for Cicely, the daughter of Geoffrey Blount, host of the Tabard Inn, Southwark, and the designs, on the young lady, of the Knight, Sir Christopher Synge, who is thwarted by the agency of his wife, Dame Margery. Mr. Stanford's music is throughout skilfully written, alike in its orchestral and vocal details. With some reflection of the modern German school, there is yet much that is suggestive of the robust old English style. The use made, in the introductory scene, of the ancient round "Sumer is i-cumen in" (belonging to the early part of the thirteenth century) is very happy. The whole of the scene referred to is highly effective in its combinations and contrasts of solo and concerted effects, still finer examples being the finales to the first and second acts, the latter especially, in which the turmoil raised in the village of Sidenbourne (through which the pilgrims are passing) by the discomfiture of the Knight, through the agency of his wife, are happily realised. This is a fine concerted movement, highly dramatic, and well-sustained throughout. Several other examples of the kind occur, among them being the choral and orchestral writing in the scene of the Justice-room. Of the pieces for solo voices, the most effective were: an expressive "Andante" for the six principal characters in the first act; Hubert's Invocation to Sleep, the love-duet for him and Cicely, and the beautiful air for her when hailing the approach of dawn—not to mention other instances. The performance was excellent in every respect. Miss C. Perry was a charming Cicely, and Miss M. Burton gave the music of Margery with good expression; the characters of Hubert, Geoffrey Blount, Sir Christopher, and Hal o' the Chepe (the knight's follower) having been very effectively sustained, both musically and dramatically, respectively, by Mr. B. Davies, Mr. Szazelle, Mr. Ludwig, and Mr. B. Foote. The opera is admirably mounted, as to scenery and costumes; and the stage-management of Mr. A. Harris, especially in the disciplining of the choristers, is a most important feature. The work and the composer (who conducted) were very favourably received.

The Royal Italian Opera opened with Signor Ponchielli's "La Gioconda," which was brought out there last year, and was noticed by us at the time. Having previously commented on the work, we need now merely remind readers that the book is based on Victor Hugo's tragic drama "Angelo," and that the production of the opera here last season brought forward Madame Marie Durand in the title-character, which was again sustained by her on Tuesday evening with fully the same effect as before. It was indeed a very fine performance in every respect. As Laura Madame Laterner made her first appearance here, and achieved a genuine success; the characters of Enzo, Barnaba, and Alvise having again been excellently filled, respectively, by Signori Marconi, Cotogni, and De Reszké. Signor Beviniani conducted.

Mr. Henry Leslie's choir gave the second concert of the new season at St. James's Hall last Saturday afternoon.

The London Musical Society's concert took place, at St. James's Hall, last Saturday evening, having been postponed from March 29, in consequence of the death of the Duke of Albany, who was president of the society. The programme comprised three cantatas. Dr. F. Hiller's "Oh, weep for those," Jensen's "Feast of Adonis," and Schumann's "The King's Son," and four pleasing choral songs, by Brahms, for female voices, with harp and two horns—all given for the first time in London. Dr. Hiller's solemn music, placed at the beginning of the concert, had an appropriate dirge-like effect. The work by Jensen is bright and genial, and that by Schumann very dramatic. Other details require no comment: There was a fine orchestra and a generally efficient chorus. Mr. Barnby conducted.

The Crystal Palace Saturday afternoon concerts have just closed their twenty-eighth series with the twentieth concert thereof—the programme having presented no novelty calling for notice.

Dr. Hans von Bülow gave the first of two pianoforte recitals at St. James's Hall on Tuesday afternoon, when his remarkable executive powers were displayed in a varied selection of pieces.

The first of Señor Sarasate's four orchestral concerts at St. James's Hall took place on Wednesday evening, when the programme included his own performances in Mendelssohn's violin concerto, and smaller pieces.

A concert in aid of the Netherland Benevolent Fund, for the relief of indigent Netherland subjects residing in London, was given on Thursday evening at St. James's Hall, nearly all our principal artists giving their services.

Mr. George Gear's annual concert took place at St. George's Hall on Thursday evening, under distinguished patronage.

Mr. John Farmer's pleasant fairy opera, "Cinderella," was announced to be given, as a concert recital, at St. James's Hall yesterday (Friday) evening, conducted by the composer.

The Musical Artists' Society gives its thirty-second performance of new compositions this (Saturday) evening in the Concert Room, 135, New Bond-street.

Signor Romano's annual morning concert will take place next Monday at Collard and Collard's pianoforte and concert rooms, Grosvenor-street.

Mr. William Carter was presented with a magnificent silver épergne by the members of his choir at the Royal Albert Hall last week, in token of their esteem, accompanied with their congratulations on the success which has attended his concerts this season.

Sir Michael Costa died on Tuesday, after a prolonged illness. He was born at Naples in 1810, and while very young produced various compositions. He came to England in 1829, and in the following year was engaged as "Maestro al Piano" at the King's Theatre (then so called) in the Haymarket, having afterwards become conductor at that theatre and also at the Royal Italian Opera. He was for many years conductor of the Sacred Harmonic Society, and for some seasons of the Philharmonic concerts, having acted in the same capacity at the Birmingham triennial festivals from 1849, including the last occasion (1882). He also conducted the great Handel Festivals at the Crystal Palace until last year, when, in consequence of his dangerous illness, Mr. Manns officiated in that capacity. Among his many works the most important are his oratorios, "Eli" and "Naaman"—each composed for a Birmingham Festival. As a conductor, Sir Michael Costa obtained great celebrity by his power of directing and controlling large numbers of performers, his punctuality, and excellent business habits. He was knighted in 1869.



## ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

Whether it is owing mainly to the number of new galleries or to so many of our artists giving their energies to water-colours, certain it is that the display at Burlington House, which opens to the public on Monday, is hardly equal to the average of recent years, and not in any way exceptionally interesting. The best pictures will hardly surprise the visitor into breathless admiration, and oftener than on any occasion that we can recall were we reminded of the art of Suffolk-street. Further general observations must be deferred in order to satisfy curiosity as to some of the most important works, and our remarks must be short, like the space and time at our command.

At the head of the large or Banqueting Gallery is "Hadrian in England: Visiting a Romano-British Pottery," by Alma Tadema; the largest picture he has exhibited. The strangeness of the composition at once strikes the eye. As though by a centrifugal force, all the heads are distributed near the boundaries of the picture, and the space where usually would be the focus of interest is occupied by a breadth of mosaic, a ledge with onions (why there we do not know), and a nearly nude workman, to the right, carrying a tray of vessels up the steps which lead from the workshop below, where the potters are seen at their wheels, to a sort of gallery or show-room above, where Hadrian stands, with three Roman ladies, inspecting vessels shown them by attendants. The peculiarity of the arrangement reaches its climax, or rather its nadir, in the head of another workman bearing a tray of black pottery, which head is cut off at the lower jaw by the bottom of the frame. The colouring generally is superb—much richer than is usual with the artist; the flesh tints, moreover, unlike the portraits at the Grosvenor Gallery, have generally their full relative effect; and we need scarcely add that the multifarious accessories reveal consummate skill of imitation.

The "Cymon and Iphigenia," by the President, occupies another post of honour in the Great Room, and, thanks to the breadth of treatment, the width of the canvas, and massive frame, and to the picture being flanked by two large portraits with black backgrounds, the effect is quite monumental. Truly, the picture has a stateliness and charm which entitle it to rank as one of Sir Frederick's most successful achievements. Iphigenia, of course, sleeps; and in a much more graceful attitude than her attendants. Cymon is a polished gentleman in red, looking, by-the-way, little in need of reclamation, accompanied by an ideal sheep-dog, whose well-bred reverence for beauty is equal to his master's. Trees with strangely smooth trunks, the blue Ægean, and a segment of moon rising over its waters, form the background. The effect is of after-glow, as we suppose intended in the President's "Phryne," but paler, and more qualified by the blue sky reflexes, though hardly less difficult to reconcile with any known natural conditions of lighting. This glow is diffused over the wide-spreading amber drapery of Iphigenia, and forms a vast mass of light in the picture. As for the idea, there is hardly more than one would expect in a print by Bartolozzi; the charm lies in the extreme sweetness of the tints, the almost Japanese precision of line, but, above all, to our mind, in the face of Iphigenia, which, for classic beauty, the artist has hardly before equalled. That the picture has no English characteristics need not be said; but it has always been a mystery to us from what foreign source Sir Frederick derived his quite singularly smooth and waxy textures. Titian and the great colourists distinguished textures most carefully, though they subordinated them to colour. But the President's efforts in that way are limited to a few obvious devices, and his neglect of surface variations and other great natural facts are, it must be said, apt to result as much in an evincation as an idealisation of nature. But the artist's real aim is perhaps as much decorative as ideal. If decoration must be something as arbitrary, artificial, and seductive as possible—which we are very far from admitting—then we have here decoration of rare skillfulness: it is all this—it is as graceful, refined, and accomplished as you please. If, however, this art be claimed as pictorial in the best sense, we can but think that it misses the higher beauty of nature, and lacks the more masculine qualities, whether technical or imaginative.

Mr. Millais, the strongest realistic painter we have, is rather disappointing at Piccadilly this year. His most considerable effort is an "Idyll: 1745" (347), a fifer-boy, with a smiling companion at his side, playing to a group of three little Scotch lassies, a glimpse of the camp being afforded in the background. The expression of the girls' pretty faces is the best thing in the picture; the fifer is less sympathetic; and his garish uniform, painted with unmitigated force, is in jarring contrast to the dark and not very happy tones of the rest of the picture. How different is this picture, technically, from that other episode from the same period, "The Order of Release," and yet, curiously enough, some of the peculiarities of the artist's pre-Raphaelite days reappear here for the first time—something of an over-consciousness of obtrusion of prosaic details. Mr. Millais also sends a portrait of Mr. Fleetwood Wilson (131), a fair average example; of little Miss Scott (331), of which we can hardly say the same, and of Henry Irving (372) a profile, more favouring than is common for the artist, of the pallid, expressive face, and the best portrait, we think, of the three.

Mr. F. Goodall comes, or rather remains, to the fore with three important pictures. The largest (unnecessarily large, we think) is an impressive version of "The Flight into Egypt," to which adventitious interest attaches from the circumstance that the same theme has been chosen by Mr. Long, and by Mr. Holman Hunt in a picture upon which he has been engaged several years, and which the fastidious artist is said to have effaced more than once. Comparison, however, can hardly be made, so different is the treatment of each artist—trusting to report as regards Mr. Hunt. In Mr. Goodall's huge canvas the Holy Family have arrived, after the night's journey, in Egypt, as the rays of the rising sun are seen behind the huge masses of the pyramids of Ghizeh. Joseph leads the ass, with anxious countenance, as though prying at once into the distance and the future; the Mother looks down tenderly on the awakening Child. Nothing breaks the silence of the vast plain but the flight of a few ibises from a pool left by the subsidence of the Nile. Thus Mr. Goodall has relied upon the pathos of the naked incident, and the suggestively appropriate sentiment of dawning day; and much may be said for the poetic propriety of this. In Mr. Long's picture, exhibited in Bond-street, which we have already reviewed, the Egyptian sacerdotal procession is picturesque, and, with its evening effect, suggestive of the downfall of idolatry; yet, in their juxtaposition with it, the Holy Family seem rather misplaced and conventional, and the deeper interest they should evoke is little felt. "A New Light in the Harem" (235), also by Mr. Goodall, shows a naked baby amused by a black servant and proudly watched by its mother. "The Sword of the Faithful" (619), the artist's third picture, represents a bazaar scene, with an Oriental mounted on a camel trying the edge of a scimitar, which a dealer in arms has handed to him. Throughout the wide variety of in-

cidents, effects, and details of these contributions Mr. Goodall evinces a learning and an equality of power greater, we think, than has distinguished any recent works.

Mr. Orchardson's "Marriage de Convenience" (341), though smaller, will probably be as popular as his Voltaire picture of last year. Certainly the artist's intelligent felicity, his rare tact and expressiveness in telling a story is exemplified even more happily. There is some canvas "to let," as usual, and the background is loosely scribbled in with the customary mannerism; but the table, spread for dessert, is admirably painted, and the ill-matched couple, who sit at the extremities of it, could hardly be more significant of a sordid union. The lady, young, well-favoured (with, by-the-way, no back hair, and no back to her head) sits, not deigning to conceal her indifference or aversion, though her lord seems to be on the point of coldly inviting her to take wine with him as the butler fills his glass. He is elderly, bald, ill-looking, with shallow pate and huge hook nose—a Dombey in pride, formality, and stubbornness. What a future for the "happy pair!"

We must include in this first notice, as one of the principal works of the year, a picture by J. W. Waterhouse, whose "Honorius" (which we engraved from the last Academy exhibition) presented such high promise—now more than redeemed. It is entitled "Consulting the Oracle" (559). The subject of the present picture (which we shall also engrave) is from mediæval Jewish life; the scene, the interior of an Oriental house, the mashabichs of which are darkened; the Oracle or Teraph is a human head, cured with spices, fixed against the end wall. The lamps being lit, and other rites performed, "the imagination of diviners," in the words of a paragraph quoted in the catalogue, "was so excited that they supposed that they heard a low voice speaking future events." A strangely-robed enchantress-like female officiates before the head, and on a divan opposite are seated several young Jewesses listening for the mysterious utterances with various emotions of hope or fear. The expressions of the girls are finely discriminated, and the whole conception testifies to very uncommon powers of invention and construction; but, perhaps, most remarkable are the solidity of impasto, and a richness and depth of colouring rarely combined.

Van Haanen, the still young chief of what may properly be termed the new school that has been formed at Venice, seeing that he has so many followers, sends an important example called "Afternoon Coffee" (721). We regret, however, to say that, in idea, it is only a variation of his famous "Pearl Stringers," nor is it quite so masterly. Instead of stringers of glass beads, we have the interior of a dress-maker's workshop, as appears by the cutting-board, plates of fashions, and "costumes" in hand. The *padrona* again appears, but relaxing her surveillance to dispense the coffee, of which some of the *eucitricæ* prepare a fresh brew; and one of them takes advantage of the interval to read or re-read a love letter—overlooked by a confidante. The scene is animated, the varied types of the Venetian girl truthfully rendered, and the colouring effect and handling, if not quite equal to those of the picture of two years back, are superb. Mr. Van Haanen's colouring has a strength and inner glow, and artistic "quality," derived from his study in the Antwerp school, which none of his followers have attained in the same degree. We regret that Mr. Logsdail, whose Piazza of St. Mark's was one of the strongest works in the last Academy Exhibition, and who has gone through the same training as Van Haanen, is not represented. We may mention that the picture "Soir d'été" (650), by J. Van Beers, which had so much success at the Paris Salon of two or three years ago, is here, but, placed as it is below the line, it cannot be fairly seen. This is the artist who, it may be remembered, lost the action against an art critic for attributing to him a hardly fair use of photography, which caused much sensation on the Continent; the same also who had another picture maliciously damaged at Brussels, and who himself injured another of his pictures because it was not well hung at the Salon.

Observations on other of the works of most mark must be reserved till next week.

T. J. G.

## THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

The annual report of the director of the National Gallery for the year 1883 gives, besides detailed descriptions of pictures recently acquired for the gallery, a variety of particulars relating to the establishment. In the course of the last year pictures from the National Gallery were lent to the National Portrait Gallery, the National Gallery, Ireland, the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, the Manchester Art Gallery, and the Corporations of Sheffield, Nottingham, Oldham, Dundee, Leicester, Stockport, Warrington, Stoke-on-Trent, and Glasgow. The total number of visitors in the gallery on public days in 1883 was nearly 850,000, the daily average being 4104; on students' days (Thursday and Fridays), the total number was 21,192; and, independent of partial studies, nearly 800 oil-colour copies of pictures were made. The pictures copied, however, were not very numerous, and Greuze's "Girl with an Apple" heads the list as having been copied sixteen times. Murillo's "Peasant Boy" and Sir J. Reynolds's "Infant Samuel" were copied thirteen and twelve times respectively. The remainder of the copies were taken from forty-seven pictures, though there are now, exclusive of water-colour drawings, about 940 pictures in the gallery.

A Convocation of the University of Oxford was held on Tuesday, when a vote was taken upon the proposed statute for the admission of women to the honour examination. There were 464 for the statute and 321 against it, the majority in its favour being thus 143.

On Tuesday Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods disposed of the whole of the remaining works of the late Mr. Alfred P. Newton, member of the Royal Water-Colour Society. The collection was comprised mostly of finished water-colour drawings, for which some fair prices were realised. The sale of the collection amounted to over £1800.

The preliminary prize-list for the next meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon in July has been issued, and in consideration of the success attending the last meeting, the council has sanctioned a net increase of about £1200 over the amount shot for last year, when, exclusive of challenge cups, it reached £7000. Among the numerous changes made is the institution of a series of "evening" prizes to be competed for after 5.30 p.m.

The various local Committees formed by the Mansion House Council on the Dwellings of the Poor are actively at work, and at the last meeting of the Central Committee upwards of 250 new cases were reported as having been dealt with during the past fortnight. Cardinal Manning has become a Vice-President; and, at the invitation of the Council of the International Health Exhibition, three Conferences for the discussion of practical measures in connection with the Housing of the Poor are being arranged for July next. Additional help is required to enable the work of the Council to be vigorously, effectively, and promptly carried on.

## THE GROSVENOR GALLERY.

The ever-increasing facilities provided for English artists to exhibit their works—not, as we think it should be, in one great national display, with proper guarantees, enabling the public to form an exact estimate of our position in art, but in a distracting number of galleries, where the test is often too lax, and therefore calculated to shorten the necessary period of studentship—may have been expected to operate unfavourably even against this gallery, despite its special advantages and prestige. We see, however, little if any falling off; and Sir Coutts Lindsay's selection this season still presents interesting illustrations of "outside" forms of art, and of several foreign or other divergent influences and tendencies, which could not be studied so fully, and in some instances not at all, elsewhere. With these are interspersed works by more orthodox painters of eminence; and to these we invite first attention.

Mr. Millais' half-length of Lord Lorne is worthy of the painter. No characteristic of the handsome head is slurred over, and the fur-trimmed coat is a masterpiece of brushwork. Hanging near together as pendants are two other portraits by Mr. Millais of the same lady, first, as Miss Nina Lehmann (the portrait exhibited at the Academy in 1870), and next as Lady Campbell, as she will become at the very time we are writing this. Interesting comparisons are thus permitted, albeit they are not entirely favourable to the newer work—in which, though as a whole admirable, the head is relieved against a background of some figured tissue, the dull yellow of which is hardly happy as a foil to flesh, and in which the arms are a little stiff. But that brilliant earlier portrait who will forget? The charming little girl, with long blonde hair, in white frock, and flesh-coloured silk stockings, holding a camellia, sitting so *déçagée* on a green glazed earthenware jar, with blue-green drapery and flowering shrub behind! Mr. Watts, who sends bust portraits of the Marquis of Salisbury and Lord Lytton, distinguished by the usual refinement and dignity, but somewhat lacking distinctness of characterisation. The mystic figure of the youthful "Udrea," nude to the waist, is represented as seen through a veil of light—an imaginative effect tenderly rendered. There is also a "Happy Warrior" receiving a kiss from a fair face in his dreams. And Mr. Watts has, besides, an "upright" landscape, "Rain Passing Away"—a towering mass of cumulus, the lower contents of which are nearly discharged, as a rainbow commences to form. This is one of those large canvases which at first sight appear too empty of subject, but to which we are immediately reconciled by the artist's poetic sympathy with Nature in her moods of epic grandeur. There are male portraits by Mr. Holl and Mr. Herkomer, but both artists may be studied with more advantage at Burlington House. Mr. Alma Tadema is likewise represented in three bust portraits, about life-size, of Signor Amendola (8), the sculptor, Herr L. Lowenstam (143), etching a plate; and Miss Lewis (15). But, notwithstanding great merits peculiar to the painter, he is hardly at his best in portraiture of this scale; the flesh is rather too smooth in texture, and scarcely relieves itself in its true natural value from the backgrounds.

By Mr. Calderon there is a picture of moderate dimensions, which is one of the choicest gems of the year—"Aphrodite" (38)—borne on a swelling wave. The beautiful "quality" of the flesh tints of the perfectly foreshortened nude figure, the ultramarine sea, streaked with silver foam, the paler azure of the sky, flecked with a few fleecy cirri, the lovely hues of the hovering sea-gulls, form an exquisite combination, alike as regards conception and technicalities. We have heard objection taken to the peculiar colour of the submerged portions of the goddess's body and limbs; but this struck us as subtly truthful on recalling an experience at Capri, where, in common, no doubt, with many other observers, we saw a boy dive into the blue waters of the Grotto Azzurro. Mr. Orchardson has a large-moulded "Farmer's Daughter" (85) feeding pigeons—scarcely so pleasant in treatment as usual. Mr. P. R. Morris sends a group (202) of two of his prettiest babies with their "playmate," a Skye terrier, "begging." Mr. Boughton has two small but characteristic examples, painted with perhaps more than customary care. By Mr. E. J. Gregory there is a couple of those trifles on which he fritters away much of his rare gifts. And Mr. R. W. Macbeth has one of the sweetest of sweet rustic damsels, with the appropriate motto, "Far from the madding crowd" (214).

We turn now to the contributions of some of those artists who are more identified with the Grosvenor Gallery. In this category, E. Burne-Jones is again the most prominent with "King Cophetua and the Beggar Maid," a very tall picture, which, in its ornate Italian frame and with its strange rich sombre tone, is not a little imposing. It is indeed the most elaborate, and, in its way, the most admirable work the artist has exhibited. But on examination and reflection the painter will be found to make sore demands on the toleration of a spectator of average intelligence and taste, and it will be evident that he has finally broken with common-sense. Why, even in the regions of ancient ballad, should this sterling quality be ignored? Why, in an illustration of a pleasant old legend, should the lovers be so dismal, and the beggar maid moribund? The mixed plate and chain-armor and spear of the king are Italian of the fifteenth century; his type, with shock of matted black hair, is such as Giorgione would have chosen; and the architecture is, in general character, of the Renaissance period, yet its ornamentation is Byzantine of the twelfth century! The steps and other structural parts seem to have Arabian details and to be of a golden bronze, introduced, in defiance of probability, to get "colour." We do not object to the queer archaic crown the king has doffed, for that may indicate the antiquity of his line, forsooth! But the figures above distract the attention, and there is little truth to natural aspect or in the rendering of the planes. In short, it is a medley or *cento* from many sources, though ingeniously combined. After all deduction, however, including the large concessions of the morbid sentiment, and that little more, in fact, than a nursery rhyme was worthy of treatment on this scale and with this complexity, there still remain to admire the best draughtsmanship we have seen by the artist in the figure of the beggar-maid, together with novel and fine harmonies in the armor and drapery of the king, and other parts. The textures, too, have an inner glow like those of the Venetians; in truth, Mr. Jones successfully mimics at least the present appearance of works by the old Italian masters. Other painters here affected by Mr. Burne-Jones's example, and who consciously simulate the unconscious *niaiseries* of the early Italians, are J. M. Strudwick, Spencer Stanhope, Mrs. Spallart Stillman, and Miss E. Pickering. But imitators necessarily take a position in the rear, and their works seldom repay criticism. T. M. Rooke has for the nonce painted a group of boy portraits (162), and with a degree of realistic truth that marks a distinct advance. Walter Crane errs alternately into the Jonesean and pseudo-classical limbo without much hurt to his invention and composition, both of which are at their best in his decorative allegory with many figures of "The Bridge of Life" (206); only the technical power is often not equal to the adequate expression of the idea.

A number of works of mark by less or not in the least eccentric artists must be reserved for a future article.

T. J. G.



THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.



TIMON AND APEMANTUS (TIMON OF ATHENS).—SIR JOHN GILBERT, R.A.



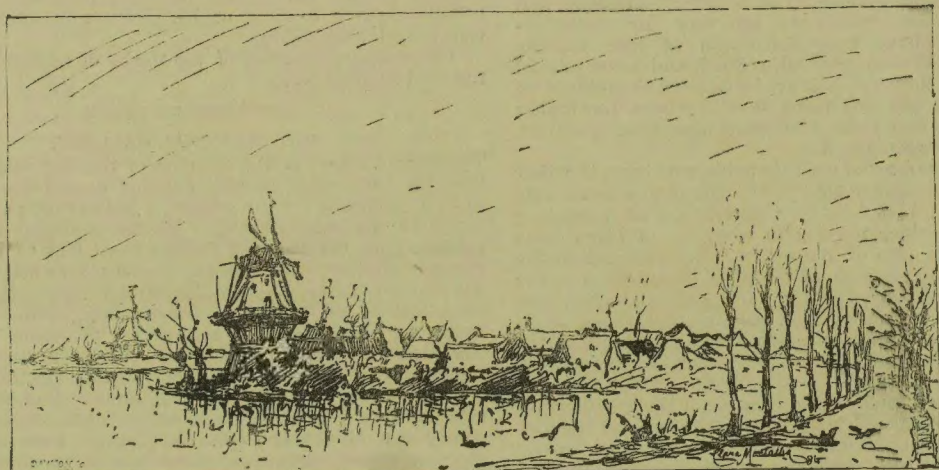
SIGNALS OF DISTRESS.—A. HOPKINS.



OLD TREES AT DUNGEON GHYLL.—P. J. NAFTEL.



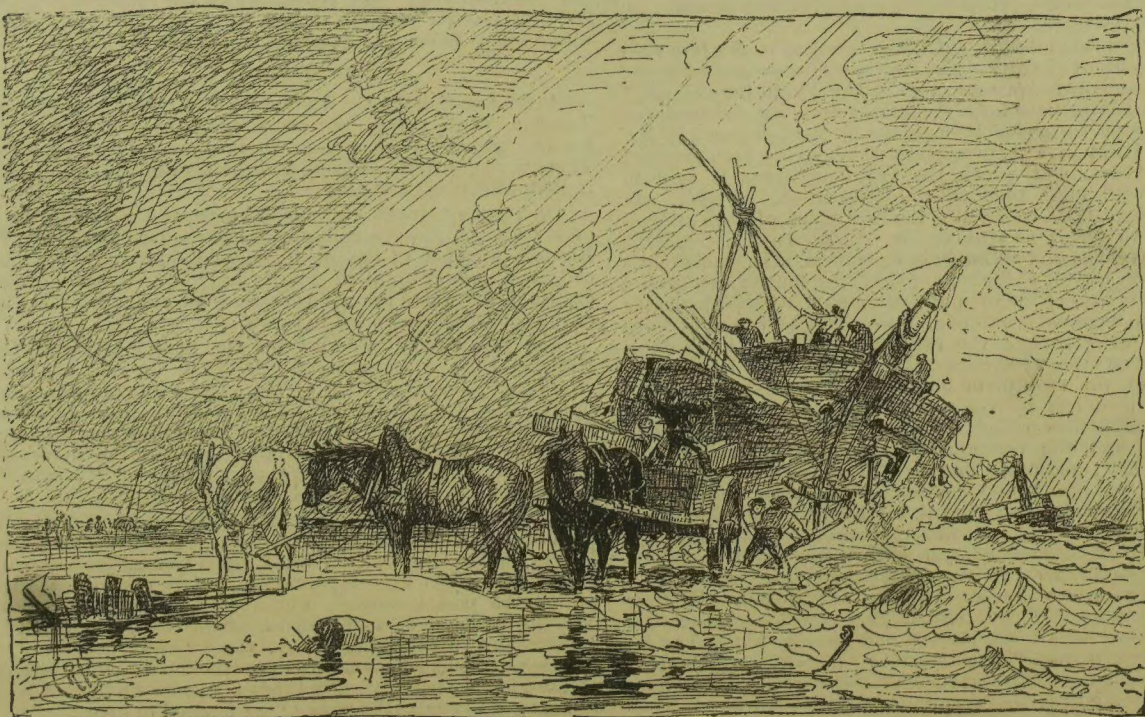
THE PET RABBIT.—WALTER GOODALL.



SOUVENIR OF MIDDELBURG.—CLARA MONTALBA.



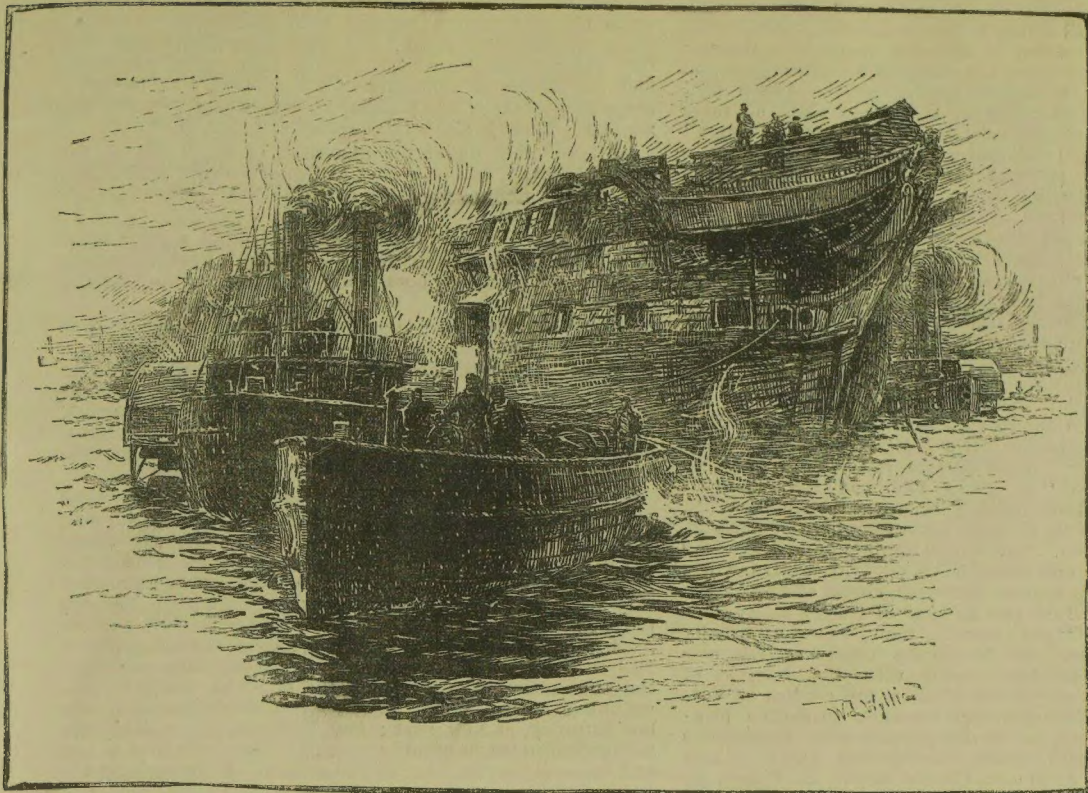
THE STROLLERS: THE PET OF THE COMPANY.—E. BUCKMAN.



CLEARING THE WRECK: TIDE RISING.—R. BEAVIS.



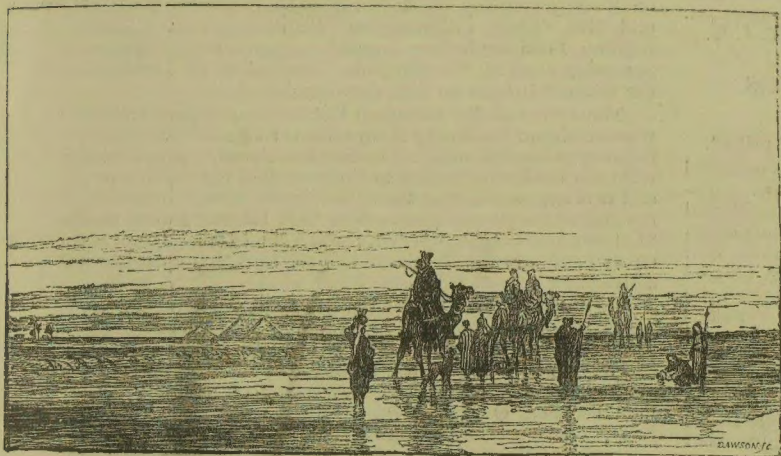
THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.



FUNERAL MARCH OF A HERO.—W. L. WYLLIE.



AMONG THE MISSING: SCENE IN A CORNISH FISHING VILLAGE.—WALTER LANGLEY.



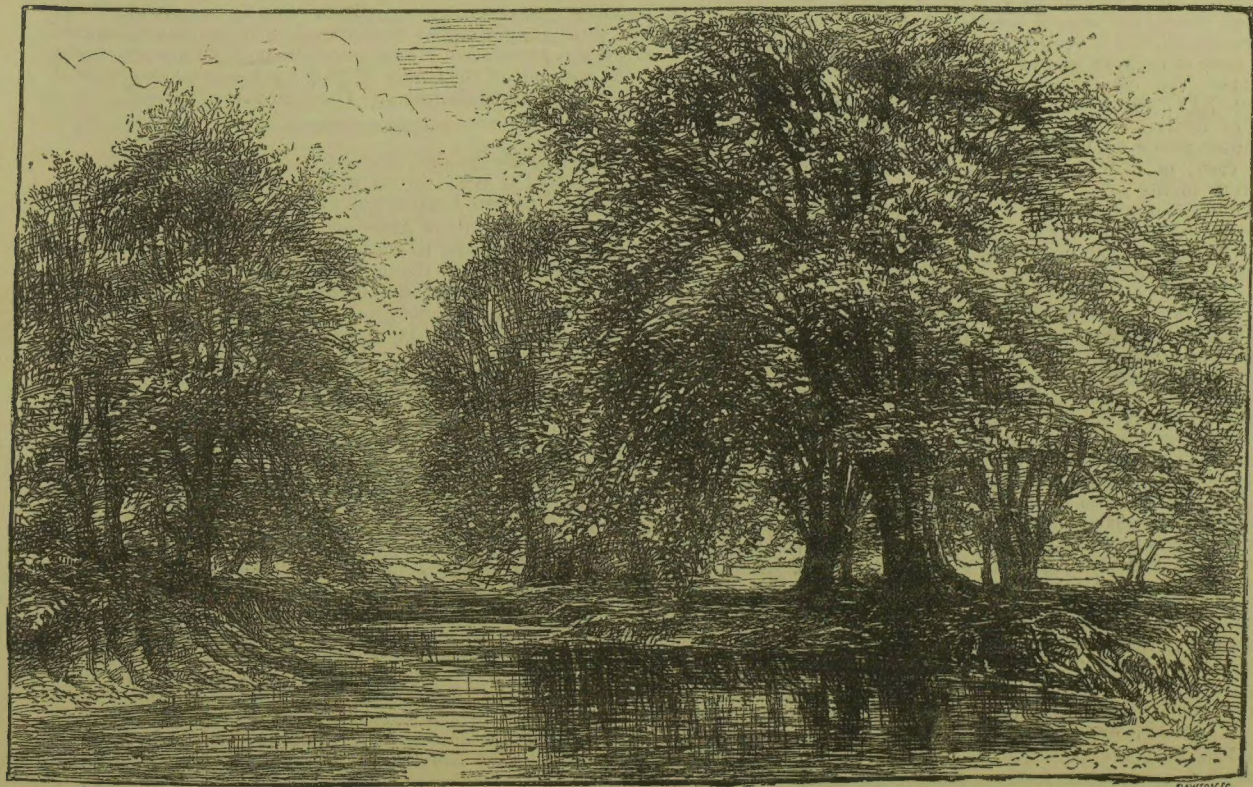
DAYBREAK IN EGYPT.—H. PILLEAU.



HOEING TURNIPS.—GEORGE CLAUSEN.



THE CROCKERY CART.—H. TUCK.



THE HAUNT OF THE FALLOW DEER.—EDMUND G. WARREN.



A YOUNG PLANT.—JOHN WHITE.



## ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

It was hardly to be expected that the present exhibition of this society should equal that of last year when the Institute, so wisely as well as generously, threw open the doors of its spacious and handsome new home in Piccadilly to all comers. Many drawings probably then saw the light that had been in the portfolios of their producers for years. Nor can we reasonably look for nothing but *chefs d'œuvre* in a gathering of over 1000 items. The contents of the first or West room are, as a whole, decidedly disappointing, especially if the visitor should come to them, as we did, from the old Water-Colour Society. But the collection improves in the second and third galleries, and throughout at intervals are works of considerable merit, many of them by water colourists comparatively new to the public, or by well-known oil painters who occasionally practise in the lighter medium.

To these works, particularly those of most novel interest, we propose to invite first attention. By L. Passini—a name new to us as that of a water-colour painter, but who appears as a member of the Institute, there is a drawing which for richness of colour and strength of character and effect has few rivals here on a like important scale. It is entitled "Passeggio" (927), and represents a string of Venetian promenaders, male and female, and quarrelling *ragazzi*. W. Langley, who quite recently made his debut, we believe, at the Dudley Gallery, more than justifies the high expectations he then raised in No. 275, a scene outside the post-office of a Cornish fishing village. News has come in from the fleet away at the North Sea herring fishery; but, as often happens, some brave men are reported "Missing," and one poor woman already walks away in despair, her face buried in her hands, led by her pitying mother. Little heed, however, is paid by the anxious, busy crowd to a grief so common. The pathos is not lessened by the choice of unsympathetic types, as sometimes happens in Mr. Langley's drawings, and the painting is as sincere and admirable as the treatment in other respects. There is much excellent workmanship also in the drawing, by this artist, "A Lover and his Lass." "A Bible Reading" (1018), by the American artist, E. A. Abbey, is a capital conceived piece of character painting. In, as we presume, the New England home of a Puritan family of three generations, the austere pastor, raising his eyes from the sacred volume, fixes them on the girls seated in the front rank, the least attentive of whom has had the vanity to place a flower in her hair. The effect of the evidently implied admonition is furtively watched by the elder members of the family. F. Dadd has a droll drawing (570) of Grenadiers of the Georgian time seated in Indian file astride a barrack form, each man complaisantly combing or plaiting the pigtail of his comrade in front, while the toilet of others is being completed by the discharge of hair-powder through a tube. The luminosity and sound draughtsmanship are as noticeable as the humour; and much the same observation applies to "A Victim of Fashion" (475), a poodle being shaved; and No. 757, highwaymen fleecing an old gentleman. J. Nash, who has been too seldom seen in recent exhibitions, has made a great advance in "Satisfaction" (244), a man lying dead, with a pistol by his side, on the sands, say of Boulogne. The figure is skilfully foreshortened. Much promise is presented by the able manner in which the effect of light from a window on two figures is rendered in No. 179, by R. Steer. "Listed" (650), by W. H. Gore, a name new to us, is a tiny gem both as sentiment and art; and there is a brilliant "bit" (624) by J. W. Waterhouse. Foreign influence seems apparent in "Overburdened" (724), by G. F. Weatherbee—the figure, impressively relieved against the winter sky and snow, of a poor widow crying sticks, with a babe at her breast and a little toddler crying to be also carried. Anderson Hague, of the "Manchester School," seems likewise to own French influence in No. 577—a girl with bracken.

There are, too, landscapes, &c., of novel interest. "A Wheat Ship" (234), by F. Murray, is strikingly truthful in the "values" in light. C. Napier Hemy's drawing of fishermen in a boat "Hauling in the Lines" (146) presents new qualities of mellowed breadth, which entitle it to take high rank here. The artist retains the sound technical qualities he acquired in the Antwerp school, but he has discarded the heaviness and hardness that occasionally accompanied them. We have also to commend the breadth of treatment in No. 361, by T. Huson, and in "Summer-Time: a Sussex Landscape" (235), by Hampson Jones, which we noticed in a review of the last Liverpool Autumn Exhibition. The landscapes by A. Parsons are more and more artistic; and, despite the tendency to blackness of No. 828, it is very harmonious in its relations. A. G. Bell's view at Honfleur (442) is unvulgar, and well expresses the effect of wind. C. E. Johnson makes a very respectable appearance in water-colours with "When the Sun is Getting Low" (500). G. S. Walters has essayed an effect of fog on the Thames (869) with marked success.

In respect to the contributions of many of the members, we must perforce limit ourselves rather to the duty of the chronicler than the reviewer—their usual characteristics being well known. E. J. Gregory sends "A Summer Day" (348), a very small drawing of a girl in a hammock; "A Look at the Model" (538), a portrait of the artist himself at his easel caressing one of his legs; and "A Morning Gallop" (683), a sleepy-eyed young lady airing her legs on a tricycle. Nothing in the exhibition is more exquisite in colour or more delicate in execution than these drawings. But the painter's tendency to at least an odd choice of subject is betrayed in the last. "A Recruit for the Spahis" (620), by A. C. Gow (who we believe has wintered in Algiers), is another small drawing of high finish. G. Clausen has done nothing better than "Hoing Turnips" (610); it not only rivals Bastien Lepage in veracity of aspect, but the colour-tones are richer, there is more recognition of aerial perspective, and the figures are not repulsive, though equally realistic. Mr. J. D. Linton, the President of the society, only sends a small single-figure costume study called "Priscilla" (613). Her expression is sweet; but she is one of those females to whom, whether maid or matron, the artist impartially imparts the thickest of necks and the broadest of shoulders. The execution, as always, is dainty, the colour sober and refined. T. W. Wilson exhibits a portrait (22) of the President painting his decorative picture for this year's Academy—an excellent likeness. Mr. Wilson has changed his style, and thereby acquired new qualities of tone, but at some present sacrifice of effect and colour. Either Mr. Linton and the canvas before him should be much lighter (they would, in fact, appear in a mass of light under the conditions represented), or the depths of the studio should be much darker. C. Green, we regret to say, betrays a growing mannerism in the hard, minute stipple of "Tom Pinch and Ruth" (458). F. W. Topham contributes two Italian subjects, of which we prefer "Content" (885). W. L. Thomas has a pleasant drawing representing the varied emotions of a boxful of juvenile spectators of "A Thrilling Bazaar" (550). We must be content to merely mention the "Bazaar, Suez" (745), by W. Simpson, and the contributions, generally of minor importance, of G. A. Storey, Seymour Lucas, L. P. Smythe, A. Stock, J. Tenniel, H. Carter, C.

J. Staniland, E. Bale, Towneley Green, and R. W. Allen. We decline to discuss at length the extravaganzas of the "Flames of First Love" (399) and "Love and Death" (93) of H. J. Stock. The technical ability is unquestionable, but the artist has mistaken his vocation in choosing imaginative themes: the allegories and emblems are essentially commonplace and effete. Talent is equally misapplied by G. Wilson (92), Spencer Stanhope (285), and T. M. Rooke (788), all three imitators of the manner of Burne Jones. W. Crane's "Diver" (1081) is more original and better drawn than his decorative designs, "Evening" (86) and "Morn" (99).

Turning to the landscapes, marines, &c., not yet noticed, Mr. MacWhirter's "Lord of the Glen" (516) and "Lady of the Woods" (322) are old ideas reproduced in water colours, but with unusual care. H. Macallum's charming drawing of boys in a boat (407) also closely resembles previous works, having their venue on a Scotch loch, instead of the "Bay of Naples." C. E. Holloway likewise repeats himself in "The Old Wellesley" (176), a hulk relieved against a sky. H. G. Hine's serene feeling and velvety breadth are more felicitous in his small than in his large drawings. We prefer also J. Aumonier's smaller examples, particularly the very truthful "Under the Downs" (1072). T. Collier's view in the New Forest (427) is very brilliantly "blottesque," if a little vacant in form and monotonous in colour. Other disciples of David Cox, notably E. M. Wimperis, in "A Breezy Common" (921), and J. Orrock, in views in Donnington Park, are at their best. W. L. Wyllie we expect to see in more force elsewhere; as also F. Walton and E. Parton. The several marines of E. Hayes are as spirited as ever; and those of W. W. May, while not less modest than before, acquire increased charm of quiet truth to open air effect. Into two at least of Keeley Halswelle's drawings he has "put more" than we can usually find in his works. J. Mogford's coast scenes also claim recognition of fresh merit with the interest of fresh scenes. J. Fulleylove continues his studies at Versailles, and G. S. Elgodd invites attention to garden pleasures nearer home, which he peoples with appropriate figures touched in with rarest delicacy and grace. Harry Johnson, T. Pyne, J. Smart, Claude Hayes, E. Fahey, A. Severn, and H. Pilleau have all works of merit. Referring in conclusion to the large drawing by J. Knight, "Evening Glow" (167), we must observe that the style which once promised so well threatens to deposit only the dregs of mannerism.

T. J. G.

## PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, April 29.

Another week of north wind has kept the Parisians occupied principally with wearing out pocket-handkerchiefs. "Tomorrow is vanishing day at the Salon, and the traditional beginning of the Parisian summer. Will the elements deign to become propitious, or shall we lose another month? Will the ladies at last be able to bring out their spring toilets? Will the traditional open-air breakfast at Ledoyen's be possible or not? Such are some of the questions the Parisians are asking on the eve of the great artistic event of the year, the event which is the signal for the Paris season to enter upon that brilliant phase which finds its apogee in the Grand Prix and in the victory of a swift steed. Which steed? Who is the favourite! The Duc de Castries believes in Little Duck, but at Longchamps on Sunday M. Lefevre's Archiduc beat Little Duck, and Archiduc has many admirers.

The gazetteers have been rather short of news during the past week, owing to the Parliamentary vacations and to the local excitement caused by the municipal elections, and so several of them have filled up their columns by falling foul of perfidious England, "the traditional enemy of France"; others have discussed over again the merits of bull-fighting, on the occasion of the final prohibition by the Government of the *corrida de toros* that was to have taken place at the Hippodrome early in May; others have been discussing magnetism and mesmerism, and following the frivolous experiments of a certain Mr. Stuart Cumberland, who now honours Paris with his presence; others have been raking up old anecdotes about Marie Taglioni, the famous dancer, who died at Marseilles last Tuesday at the age of eighty; others, finally, have been scoffing and sneering at certain pretenders to the throne of France, members of the Naundorff family, who are now living in a ground floor lodging in the Rue de la Neva, and who held a grand *baisemain* reception last Saturday. The curious thing is that people were found to come and kiss the royal Naundorff hand.

One of the most interesting events of the week has been the sale of a collection of old silver at the Hôtel Drouot, the collection of M. Endel, which produced a total of above 205,000f. Some pieces in this collection were of the highest interest; for instance, a gold chocolatière and spirit lamp, one of the very rare pieces in existence made by Efiene Baligny (1703 to 1713), sold for 16,000f.; two silver candlesticks by Louis Regnard (1743), 15,200f.; a sauce boat by Ch. César Haudry (1745), 9400f.; a silver soup tureen by J. B. Chéret, 7500f.; another by J. A. de Villeclair (1762), 13,000f.; a fine écuelle in vermeil by the famous goldsmith Thomas Germain, 18,500f. Such were some of the highest prices paid for some of the rare specimens of French silver ware that have escaped the dissolving influence of revolutions. Under Louis XIV., the silver ware was melted to pay war expenses; under Louis XV. the same sacrifices were made; in 1789 the melting-pots were boiling all the time; in 1848 the same was the case; in 1870, what remained of old family plate was carried to the Mint, while the Commune caused the plate of the ministries and other public institutions to be melted down. The marvel is that after such a series of crises collectors should still be able to find authentic pieces of such importance as those mentioned above.

T. C.

The Italian National Exhibition at Turin was opened last Saturday by the King and Queen, the ceremony being attended by the members of the Court and many of the foreign Ambassadors. Their Majesties, accompanied by the Ministers and foreign representatives, were received at the pavilion (which had been built for their reception) by the Duke d'Aosta and the President of the Committee. After the usual speech, they were escorted through the different departments. His Majesty was especially interested in the machinery, and spoke in complimentary terms on the taste displayed in its arrangements. The Exhibition is national with the exception of one department, the international exhibition of electricity, in which England bears off the palm. The galleries of sculpture and paintings to most people prove the greatest charm of the Exhibition. The whole Exhibition shows the wonderful progress made by the country in manufactures and general industry during the last few years. The proceedings were somewhat marred by the weather, which was overcast and showery, not enough, however, to interfere with the carrying out of the programme; and the inauguration ceremony was a great success throughout.

The King of Spain has been confined to his bed by an attack of intermittent fever.—About four o'clock on Saturday

morning last a slow train in Spain, on its way to Badajoz, was descending an incline which led to a bridge over a small stream. The bridge had had some of its supports cut through, while the telegraph wires had been destroyed for a distance of fifty-two miles; the train accordingly fell into the water. Forty-one dead bodies have been recovered, and the officers in command of the soldiers, who formed a large proportion of the passengers, says thirty men are still missing. There is also a large return of persons injured.

A fancy fair, under the patronage of Sir E. Malet, the British Minister, will be opened at Brussels to-day (Saturday). Part of the proceeds will be given to the Englishwoman's Friendly Society.

The German Minister of War has invited a prize competition for the best models of new pattern helmet, knapsack, water-bottle, marching boots, and other campaigning articles of equipment.

On Sunday the marriage of the Grand Duke Constantine Constantinovitch, eldest son of the Emperor of Russia's uncle Constantine, with the Princess Elizabeth of Saxe-Altenburg, Duchess of Saxony, was solemnised at St. Petersburg according to the rites of the Russo-Greek and Protestant Churches. On June 15, the Emperor's brother, the Grand Duke Sergius, will be united to the Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, Queen Victoria's grandchild.

The United States House of Representatives has passed Mr. Dingley's bill for the removal of burdens upon the shipping trade, with Mr. Cox's amendment, which permits citizens of the States to import, free of duty, steamers of 4000 tons and upwards, and admits them to the American registry, provided they are owned exclusively by Americans and used solely in the coasting trade.—Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the Scotch-American ironmaster, has given 50,000 dols. to the Bellevue Hospital Medical School, to encourage medical discovery especially in connection with the germ theory, with a view to the prevention of disease.—Mr. Irving concluded his American tour last Saturday, at New York; and, in a short farewell speech, acknowledged the hospitality which had been extended to him and his company in the United States. Estimated by the amount of his receipts, which have exceeded eighty thousand pounds, his tour is the most successful of the kind that has ever been made in the States. His company left New York on Sunday morning on their return to England, Mr. Irving and Miss Terry following on Wednesday last. Madame Adelina Patti made her farewell appearance in New York yesterday week in "Semiramide," and sailed for Liverpool in the steamer Oregon on the following day.

The survey of the Canadian Pacific Railway line from the western side of the Rocky Mountains through British Columbia is being proceeded with. The line has already been surveyed from the Rocky Mountains to the summit of the Selkirk range, and it is announced that the entire line will be "located" at the end of the present year.—Now that the navigation of the St. Lawrence is again opened, the stream of emigration from Great Britain to the Dominion has set in with unprecedented activity.

Sir Arthur Blyth, K.C.M.G., the Agent-General for South Australia, has received a telegram from Adelaide, dated April 23, informing him that there has been a general election and a reconstruction of the Ministry, as follows:—The Hon. James Garden Ramsay, Chief Secretary; the Hon. John William Downer, Q.C., Attorney-General; the Hon. John Cox Bray, Treasurer and Premier; the Hon. Alfred Catt, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration; the Hon. David Bower, Commissioner of Public Works, &c.; and the Hon. Edwin Thomas Smith, Minister of Education, &c.—A Reuter's telegram from Sydney, dated April 24, states:—"The Right Rev. Dr. Alfred Barry was enthroned in the Cathedral to-day as Bishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of Australia. Eleven other Bishops were present at the ceremony, which was of an imposing character."

## ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP DUBLIN CASTLE BARRACKS.

An attempt was made on Friday night, last week, to blow up part of Ship-street Barracks, which are in the immediate proximity of Dublin Castle. An infernal machine was placed in a deep area which separates the basement windows of the barracks from the side walk, and an explosion occurred at five minutes to nine o'clock, causing intense alarm in the neighbourhood. The police were quickly on the scene, and found a strong iron canister and a number of broken nail rods. Fragments of clockwork mechanism were also found. Officers of the Highland Light Infantry, the regiment stationed at the barracks, were just then at mess in a room adjacent to the one outside of which the explosive was placed. The machine had been placed on the sill of the men's kitchen window, nine panes of which were destroyed; but no person was injured.

Mr. Poland attended at the Birmingham Police Court last Saturday to prosecute James Egan on behalf of the Treasury, the charge against him being now stated to be one of treason-felony. A number of documents found buried in the prisoner's garden were produced to show that he was a prominent member of an organisation for establishing by force an Irish Republic. A remand was granted.—In the case of John Daly, who was brought up at Birkenhead, only formal evidence of arrest was given; but it was stated that, from an experiment made with one of the bombs in Daly's possession, they were of a very destructive character. The trial was adjourned.

On Saturday (to-day) the Lord Mayor, after opening a Board School at Wood-green, will visit the almshouses belonging to the Printers' Corporation in that village.

At a special Court of Aldermen, last Saturday, it was decided, without debate, to authorise the Privileges Committee to co-operate with the Common Council in offering opposition to the passage of the London Government Bill.

The Board of Trade have awarded a binocular glass to Captain Pablo Monterola, master of the Spanish steam-ship Rivera, of Barcelona, in recognition of his humanity and kindness to a portion of the crew of the British barque Wyre, of Liverpool, whom he picked up at sea and landed at Dover.

Mr. G. M. Whipple, superintendent of Kew Observatory, informs us that, "In order to meet a demand hitherto unsupplied in this country, and to afford facilities similar to those enjoyed by Swiss, French, and American watchmakers of obtaining trustworthy and impartial evidence as to the quality of their work, the Kew committee of the Royal Society have affiliated to the department for the examination and verification of scientific instruments, which has now worked with great success for nearly thirty years at their Kew Observatory, Richmond, Surrey, a department which will rate watches for either makers or the public on very moderate terms. They will issue, with every watch tested, a statement of its going, under varied conditions of position and temperature, and award to watches of superior excellence certificates of merit, which have been drawn up in conjunction with the directors of foreign observatories, in such a manner as to possess an equal value with the certificates already granted by the Geneva and Yale College Observatories."



## THE SILENT MEMBER.

The fresh air and rest which restored the health of Mr. Gladstone evidently stimulated the Premier to unwonted clearness and vigour of speech, and may also have contributed the decision of mind requisite to resolve on a definite course of action with respect to General Gordon at Khartoum. It was, at any rate, clear from the statement made by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on the 24th ult. that the Cabinet had at length decided to take an important step to secure the safety of Gordon Pasha. The decision of the Government was formulated in firm language by Mr. Gladstone when he said:—"The country feels a profound interest, and likewise a sense of the obligation incumbent upon it, with regard to the safety of General Gordon. That feeling of interest and that strong sense of obligation with regard to the safety of that gallant and heroic officer her Majesty's Government have fully shared from the very first, and they will be careful to put themselves in a position to fulfil those obligations in the sense in which the country, in common with themselves, recognises them." Though closely pressed by Mr. Ashmead Bartlett and other confirmed Opposition inquirers for further information, the Premier has since declined to add to this significant Ministerial statement. Nor could any further particulars with regard to the presumably contemplated expedition to Khartoum be extracted in the House of Lords from the noble Earl the Foreign Secretary. This reticence, however, is sufficiently eloquent to those who can read between the lines.

If that country is happy which has no increase of taxation, then ought the Budget which Mr. Childers unfolded mellifluously on April 24 to bring forth a general chorus of congratulation throughout the kingdom. The chief points of the Financial Statement were few. The Chancellor of the Exchequer estimates the expenditure for the ensuing year at £85,292,000, and the revenue at £85,555,000, leaving the surplus of £263,000. Counting on so small a balance in hand, Mr. Childers prudently only relieves taxation to an infinitesimal extent—namely, by reducing the duty on four-wheel carriages plying for hire from £2 2s. to 15s., which concession will cost but £20,000. Lord Randolph Churchill has exercised his talents to ridicule and condemn what may be termed Mr. Childers's half-sovereign remedy. Yet the fact that the adoption of the proposal to lower the intrinsic value of the half-sovereign to nine shillings would enable the Government to meet all the expenses of our coinage recommends the novel suggestion strongly to many members. To effect another saving, a new 2½ per cent stock is to be issued—a proposition which will be best explained in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's own words:—"What we now propose is this—to constitute a Two-and-Three-Quarters per Cent Stock, with quarterly dividends, not liable to redemption before the year 1905; and to ask Parliament to offer to the holders of any of the denominations of Three per Cent Stock, such an amount of that stock, not exceeding £102 for each £100 of Consols and Three per Cents as the Treasury may determine; or, at the option of the fund holders such amount of Two-and-a-Half per Cent Stock not exceeding £108 for each £100 as the Treasury may fix." Now, as it is plain that all the cardinal points of the Budget might easily be placed before the House in a speech of a quarter of an hour's duration, would not Mr. Childers save much time and spare himself considerable exertion in future by curtailing his financial exposition within that limit, leaving the detailed analysis of income and expenditure to be presented to members in the shape of a Parliamentary paper?

Ministerialists incontestably need much "whipping" to insure their attendance in the House when their votes are required. Otherwise, the Government would have obtained on Monday a far larger majority than 27—174 to 147—in the division against Mr. Raikes's "Redistribution" instruction to the Committee on the County Franchise Bill, the progress of which the Opposition is resolutely retarding.

The Government on Tuesday made their concession with regard to the Cattle Plague Bill as gracefully as could be expected. Though Mr. Dodson's new amendment to bring about a rigid exclusion of infected foreign cattle from our ports was sanctioned by 357 votes against 48, it should not be forgotten the decision was come to in the teeth of the most earnest protest from Mr. Broadhurst, who, speaking on behalf of the working-classes, of which he is a member and the able representative, feared the new regulation would have the effect of raising the price of meat, albeit Mr. Cowen as strongly contested this point.

Wednesday was sepulchral, very. Dr. Cameron turned the House into a mausoleum; but his Disposal of the Dead Bill to provide safeguards against criminal cremation was itself sweepingly disposed of. It was rejected by 149 to 79 votes.

The University of Oxford has conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law on the Archbishop of Canterbury.

At the meeting on Monday of the General Synod sitting in Dublin, leave was given to bring in a bill for the appointment of Suffragan Bishops in the Church of Ireland.

The friends of the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children will dine at Willis's Rooms on Tuesday, May 20—the Earl of Dalhousie in the chair.

The 350th representation of Mr. Charles Du-Val's Musical Monologue took place in St. James's Hall on Tuesday, when Mr. Du-Val presented sundry new items of interest.

Professor Newton began at University College, London, on May 2, a course of lectures on "Greek Myths," as illustrated by vases, this first lecture being open to the public.

The Amateur Art Exhibition will be held in Grosvenor House on May 14 and two following days. The proceeds will be given to the Parochial Mission Women's Fund.

Mr. S. F. Langham, Deputy Coroner for the City and Westminster, has been appointed Coroner for the Duchy of Lancaster, in succession to the late Mr. W. J. Payne, whose deputy he had formerly been.

Mr. William Welsh, B.A., has been elected a Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, in the place of Mr. Edward Aikin, M.A., who resigned, and who has been elected an Honorary Fellow of Jesus College.

The French Debating Society (Société Française) of the Owens College, Manchester, on this (Saturday) evening give their third annual dramatic performance in the Chemical Theatre at the College.

The next meeting of the Victoria Institute has been put forward one day, and will be held at the Society of Arts House next Tuesday evening, when Vice-Chancellor Dawson, C.M.G., F.R.S., will give an account of his latest researches.

A vocal and instrumental concert, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor, will be given at the Horns Assembly Rooms, Kennington, on Thursday evening next, in aid of the funds of the Home for Incurables.

A most destructive fire broke out last Saturday morning on the premises of Mr. W. Whiteley, Queen's-road, Bayswater, and was not subdued till a very large portion of his valuable block of buildings, with the contents, had been burnt.

## OBITUARY.

## VISCOUNT TORRINGTON.

The Right Hon. Sir George Byng, seventh Viscount Torrington,

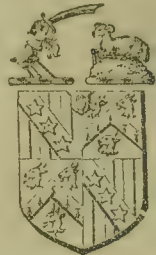


Baron Byng, and a Baronet, Honorary Colonel Royal West Kent Militia, D.C.L., a Lord-in-Waiting to the Queen, died on the 27th ult. He was born Sept. 9, 1814, the eldest son of Vice-Admiral George, sixth Viscount, succeeded his father in 1831, was Governor of Ceylon 1847 to 1850, and

was a Lord-in-Waiting to the Prince Consort 1853 to 1859, and to the Queen since the latter year. He married, 1833, Mary Anne, only daughter of Sir John Dugdale Astley, Bart., but leaves no surviving issue. His nephew and successor, Lieut.-Colonel George Stanley Byng, formerly A.D.C. and Private Secretary to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and now eighth Viscount Torrington, born 1841, married, 1882, Alice, daughter of Mr. James Jameson, of Airfield, county Dublin, and was left a widower, with one daughter, 1883.

## SIR E. MARWOOD-ELTON, BART.

Sir Edward Marwood-Elton, Bart., M.A. of Widworthy Court, Devon, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff, 1858, died on the 18th ult., in his eighty-fourth year. He was educated at Eton, and at Brasenose College, Oxford, and called to the Bar in 1827. In 1830 he assumed the additional surname of Marwood, and was created a Baronet in 1838. As he was never married and has outlived his brothers, the title becomes extinct.



## MR. LANCASTER.

Mr. John Lancaster, F.G.S., of Bilton Grange, Warwickshire, J.P. and D.L., Liberal M.P. for Wigan 1868 to 1874, died on the 21st ult., aged sixty-seven. Engaged early in the coal-trade, he became eventually proprietor of the great mines, Nanty-glo-Blaina, Monmouthshire.

## MR. M. T. BASS.

Mr. Michael Thomas Bass, who represented Derby in Parliament from August, 1848, till June, 1883, when he accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, and who was the head of the firm of Bass and Co., the Burton brewers, died at his residence, Rangemore Hall, on the 29th ult. He was a liberal benefactor to Burton and Derby, the total amount of his gifts reaching to hundreds of thousands of pounds. He was son of Mr. Michael T. Bass, of Burton-on-Trent, and grandson of Mr. William Bass, both of whom carried on extensive brewing establishments. Born at Burton-on-Trent in 1799, in 1835 he married the eldest daughter of Major Samuel Arden, of Longcroft Hall, Staffordshire. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Staffordshire in 1853.

We have also to record the deaths of—

Colonel Hugh Stewart Cochrane, V.C., brilliantly distinguished in the central Indian campaign under Sir H. Rose.

Sir Michael Costa, the eminent musical composer, at Brighton, on the 29th ult., at the age of seventy-four. A brief memoir of Sir Michael is given in our Music column.

Dr. Kennedy, of Dingwall, designated the "Apostle of the North," and recognised as the leader of the Free Church in the Highlands, on the 28th ult., at the Bridge of Allan.

Mr. John Henderson, of Leazes House, Durham, J.P. and D.L., formerly M.P. for that city, recently at Bournemouth. He was born in 1807.

Mrs. Margaret Foster-Barham, widow of Mr. Thomas Foster-Barham, and one of the last survivors of the ancient Scottish family of Henryson, on the 17th ult., aged eighty.

Jessica, wife of Sir Francis Cunynghame, Bart., of Milncraig, and daughter of the late Rev. William Henry Bloxsome, Rector of Stanton and Snowhill, on the 13th ult.

Mr. John Ralph Shaw, of Arrowe Park, Cheshire, J.P., High Sheriff, 1864, on the 14th ult., aged seventy-two; he assumed by Royal license, 1837, the surname of Shaw in lieu of his patronymic, Nicholson.

Mr. Arthur Henry Turner Newcomen, of Kirkleatham Hall, Yorkshire, J.P., on the 6th ult., aged forty. He married, in 1863, Rachel, daughter of Sir Jervoise Clarke Jervoise, Bart., and leaves issue.

Emily, Lady Mills, widow of Sir Charles Mills, first Baronet, of Hillingdon Court, Middlesex, and daughter of Mr. Richard Henry Cox, of Hillingdon, on the 22nd inst., at her seat near Uxbridge, aged eighty-two.

The Hon. Otway Fortescue Toler, of Durrow Abbey, King's County, formerly in the Cavalry, on the 23rd ult., aged fifty-nine, third son of the second Earl of Norbury, grandson of the celebrated Chief Justice Norbury, and uncle and heir-presumptive of the present Earl.

David Sherlock, First Serjeant-at-Law in Ireland, and for many years M.P. for the King's County, a learned and sound lawyer, and a staunch Whig politician, on the 16th ult. He was Senior Crown Prosecutor in Cork and Limerick, and on two or three occasions went Circuit as a Judge of Assize.

Mr. Arthur Philip Hawthorn, of 33, Sussex-gardens, on the 7th ult., in his fortieth year. He was educated at Harrow, and was formerly in the 35th (Royal Sussex) Regiment; and married, in 1881, Georgina, daughter of Mr. Robert Dickinson, Shotley House, in the county of Durham.

The Rev. John Thornycroft, M.A., of Thornycroft Hall, Cheshire, J.P., son of the late Rev. Charles Mytton, Rector of Eccleston, who assumed, 1831, the surname of Thornycroft, by Royal license, on the 18th ult., at his seat near Chelford. Maternally, he was great-grandson of the fourth Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

Harriett Anne, Lady William Graham, widow of Lord Montague William Graham (second son of the third Duke of Montrose, K.G.), and eldest daughter of William, first Lord Bateman, on the 18th inst., in her sixty-first year. She married, first, G. A. C. Dashwood, and, becoming a widow, married, in 1867, Lord M. W. Graham.

The Hon. William Henry Yelverton, of Whitland Abbey, Carmarthenshire, uncle of Viscount Avonmore, on the 28th ult., at Fulham, aged ninety-three. He sat in Parliament as member for Carmarthenshire from 1832 to 1834. He was a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for Carmarthenshire, for which county he served as High Sheriff in 1831. He was also a magistrate for the county of Pembroke. Mr. Yelverton married, in 1825, Elizabeth Lucy, daughter of the late Mr. John Morgan, of Furness, Carmarthenshire, but was left a widower in 1863. He had a family of one son and three daughters.

## CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Money has been quite a drug in the market during the week, and short loans have been easily obtained at 1 per cent; in fact, it has been impossible at times even to obtain this figure, while three months' bills have been cashed under 1½ per cent. The chief cause of this excessive cheapness of money has, of course, been the continued heavy shipments of gold from New York for the United Kingdom and the Continent. The amount of gold now on passage is over a million and a half sterling, and, despite this, the New York rate of exchange shows no signs of receding below bullion point. It is estimated that there is still available for export the sum of 30,000,000 dols. Under ordinary circumstances an increase in Stock Exchange business might have been expected to result from the extremely low rates for money. Such, however, has not been the case, and no signs are apparent of any improvement in this direction. As natural, Consols and Reduced Three per Cents have been rather pressed for sale on the proposed conversion scheme, while the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents have for the same reason had an appreciable advance. Foreign Government loans have been mainly influenced by the tone of the Paris Bourse, and have moved but slightly. Railways have been depressed; home stocks on the cold weather, American because of the disorganised state of the New York market, and Canadian and Mexican stocks on the unfavourable traffic returns.

The scheme proposed by Mr. Childers for reducing the interest on the National Debt has caused no little surprise. Omitting the New Three per Cents, which may be paid off without notice, but apparently all at one time, the Three per Cents (over £400,000,000) can be gradually paid off at par. Holders, however, are to be given the option of converting into a Two-and-a-Half per Cent stock at the rate of £108 of the latter for each £100 of the Three per Cents, or into a Two-and-Three-Quarter per Cent stock, redeemable in 1905, at the rate of £102 for each £100. By converting into the Two-and-a-Half per Cents, holders will obtain £2 14s. per cent interest in perpetuity, while in the other case the yield will be £2 16s. 1d. per cent per annum for twenty years, after which, assuming the Two-and-a-Half per Cents have by then risen to par, and that the holder re-invests into this stock, the yield will be £2 11s. per cent per annum. For a permanent investment, therefore, conversion at once into the Two-and-a-Half per Cents will be the more payable.

Further evidence of the extreme embarrassment of the financial condition of Turkey has just been afforded by a Government decree abolishing the use of "havalles." This, by itself, would be a satisfactory announcement; but it is further intimated that those now in circulation will not be honoured.

T. S.

## SPRING.

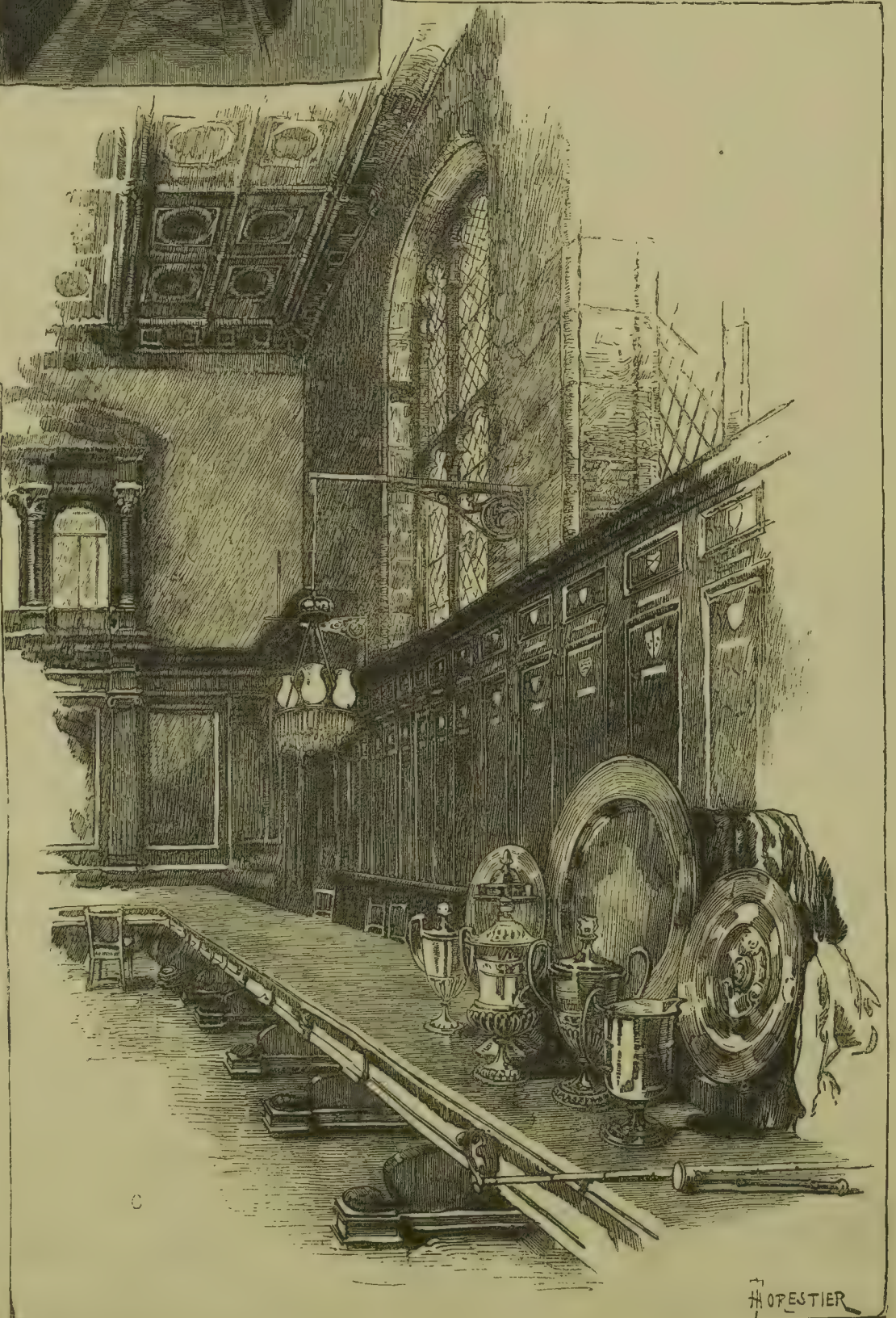
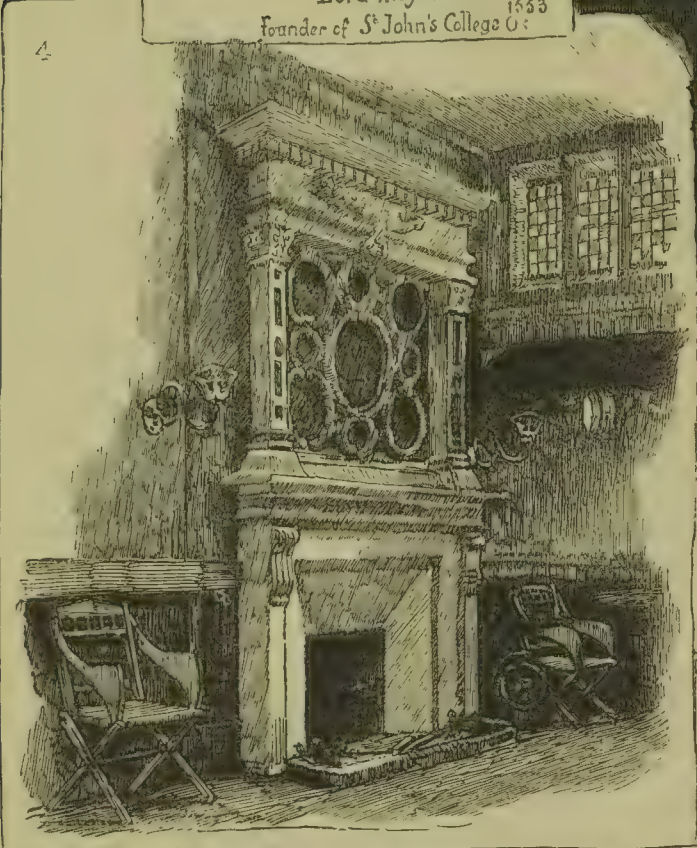
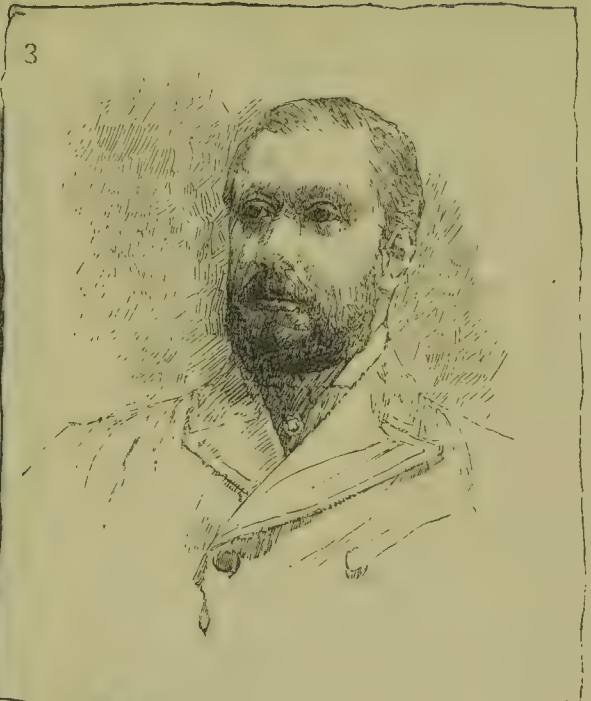
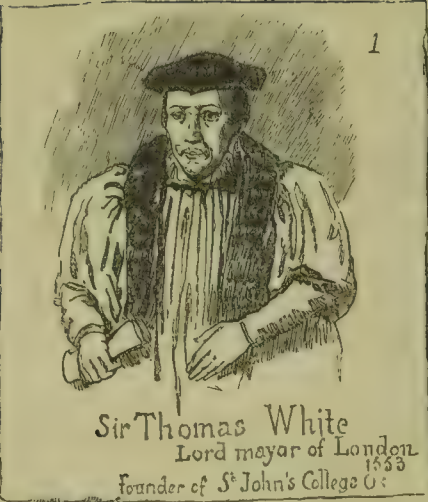
The Four Seasons, yearly visitors and kindly benefactors, though of variable humour, to the living tenants of this terrestrial globe, shall be personified in their turns, as Spring appears in our tinted Engraving this week, by pleasing and characteristic figures of artistic design. Mr. Alfred Ward, a rising artist, son of the late Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., has drawn a lovely maiden in the sweetness of her virginal bloom, instinct with the spirit of Hope, looking forth gladly upon the renewed freshness and fertility of the bountiful earth, and simply adorned with primroses (which bear no reference to our party politics), in the chaplet of her abundant hair, and on the upper border of her dress. Such a charming apparition is the more welcome after the late prolonged continuance of chilling north-easterly winds and the unseasonable fogs that we have endured to the last few days of April; and this first week of May brings the hope of more genial weather.

## THE CITY GUILDS OF LONDON.

## MERCHANT TAYLORS' COMPANY.

An interesting book recently published, the Rev. W. J. Loftie's "History of London," in a chapter on "The Rise of the Companies," notices the manner in which one of the most ancient Mercantile Guilds, that of the Weavers, apparently the most important in the twelfth century, became divided and branched off into the Clothworkers', the Drapers', and the Tailors'. The last-mentioned Company was called, at first, that of the "Linen Armourers," formed by a Royal License from King Edward I. about the year 1300. It was also, in its religious capacity, styled the Fraternity of St. John the Baptist of London; and its head was the "Pilgrim" of that fraternity, who travelled to Palestine on behalf of his brethren, probably mingling some errands of trade with his zeal for the Holy Shrines. This class of tradesmen were described generally as "purveyors of dress;" but they furnished, among other articles, the padded lining of armour, the trappings of war-horses, and the tents used in military encampments. This may perhaps account for the appellation of "Linen Armourers." Their first Hall was situated in Basing-lane, Cheapside, from which they removed in 1331, having purchased the ground on which Merchant Tailors' Hall now stands. The nickname of "Threadneedle-street" was given to the lane in jocular allusion to their trade. The title of "Merchant Taylors" was conceded to this Company by a charter of 1503, in the reign of Henry VII., but the first charter of incorporation was granted in 1466. The Company seem to have kept a "silver yard" for the measurement of cloth, with which they used, jointly with the Drapers' Company, to attend "Cloth Fair," a part of Bartholomew Fair, held yearly in West Smithfield; and they had power to search for unlawful cloth-measures, and to commit the fraudulent shop-keepers to prison. They had authority, under the Royal Charter, "within the City and suburbs over all persons belonging to the fraternity or exercising its mysteries, as also natives, traders, and foreigners, in the making, cutting, and working of men's apparel." The members of the Company were originally persons engaged in the tailor's useful handicraft, making ordinary garments for their fellow-citizens, jerkins, doublets, and trunk-hose, as well as robes of state for princes, nobles, and courtiers. They could, nevertheless, boast of the renown of men who had won military and political as well as commercial distinction, after having in early life been connected with their trade. Among these, in Edward III.'s reign, was Sir John Hawkwood, the son of a tailor at Manningtree in Essex, himself apprenticed to a tailor in London, but who became a soldier in France and Italy. Another hero of this Company was one Sir Ralph Blackwell; and there was a book, printed in 1668, which is mentioned by Pepys in his Diary, entitled "The Honour of the Merchant Taylors: wherein are set forth the valiant deeds and heroic performances of merchant taylors in former ages, their honourable loves and knightly adventures, their combating of foreign enemies, and glorious successes in honour of the English nation, together with their pious acts and large benevolences, and their building of public structures, especially





1. Portrait in the Hall.  
2. Passage leading to the Library.

3. Portrait of the Master.  
4. A Corner in the Lobby.

5. The Inner Court, from the Library.  
6. Part of the Hall, with some of the Company's Plate.

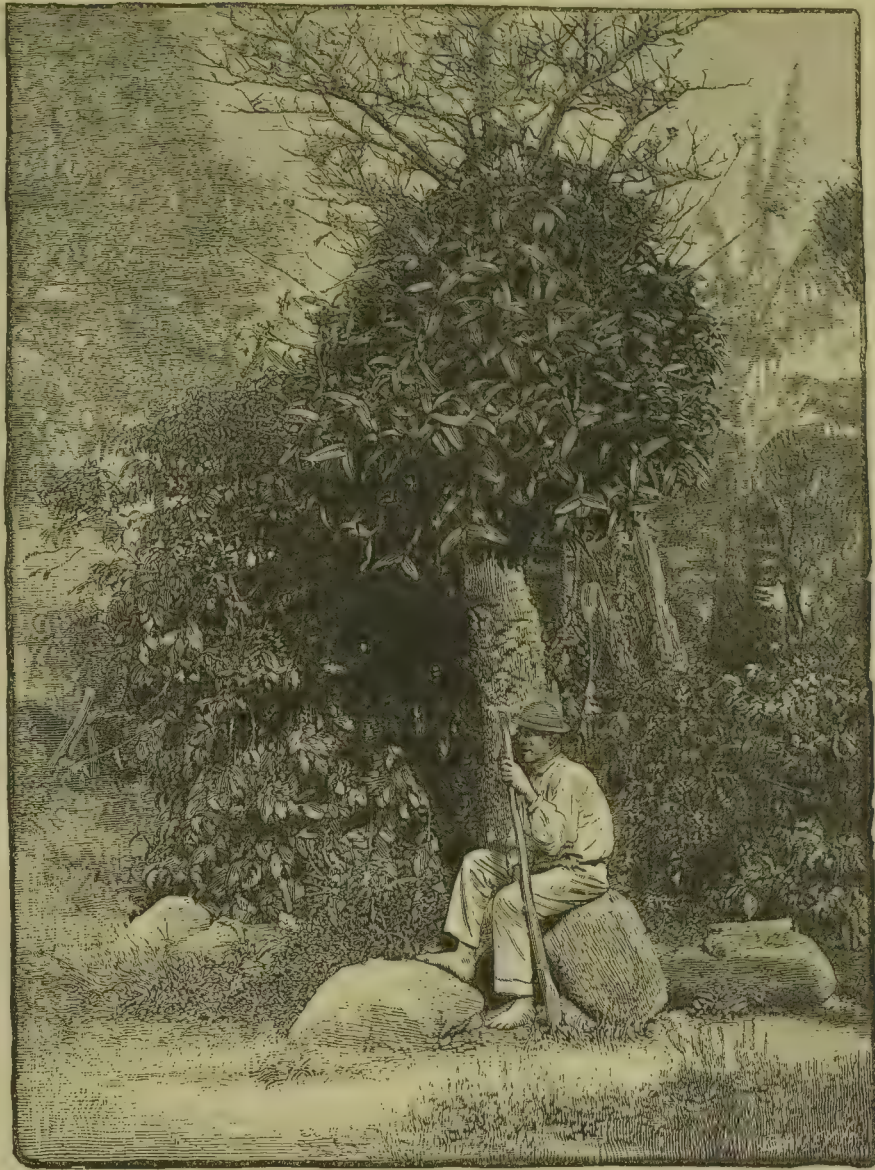


that of Blackwell Hall, to be a market-place for selling woollen cloths."

None of the City Companies has on the roll of those admitted to its freedom such a list of Kings, Princes, Dukes, and other illustrious and noble personages. The sumptuous entertainments given by the Merchant Tailors' Company to King Henry VII., in 1503, and to James I. and Prince Henry, in 1607, are described in the chronicles of those reigns. The Company loyally and patriotically contributed a good share towards the expenses of foreign wars, and sent a number of fighting men to take the field abroad. In 1530, the Merchant Tailors headed the grand marching-out of the Archers, three thousand in number, led by one styled "the Duke of Shoreditch," gorgeously arrayed, to prove their skill at the butts in Moorfields. This Company attained the height of prosperity in 1553, when Sir Thomas White, its Master, was Lord Mayor of London; he was the munificent founder of St. John's College, Cambridge.

The Merchant Tailors' Company has, in the past two hundred years, assumed a rather aristocratic character, leaving its primitive "Threadneedle" brethren far behind. Ignoring the practice of their trade, and visibly exercising no functions of supervision or assistance on behalf of any class of shopkeepers or workpeople engaged in furnishing "men's apparel," it enjoys a net revenue of nearly £32,000, the expenditure of which is set down in part as follows:—Establishment, £4685; hall, £1936; fees, £1290; company's school, £6072; donations and pensions, £5621; entertainments, £4711; wine laid down, £4274. Within ten years the total expenditure on educational objects has been £190,056; this includes £140,000 on the new school. Merchant Tailors' School, established in 1561 in Suffolk-lane, Thames-street, has been removed to the former site and buildings of the Charterhouse School, and is of high repute as a place of middle-class education. The company maintains schools also at Wolverhampton, and at several places in Cheshire, Lancashire, and other parts of England; almshouses at Lee, in Kent; a lectureship at St. Michael's Church, Crooked-lane; and thirty-eight University fellowships, besides forty-three exhibitions and scholarships.

The Hall in Threadneedle-street, of which, or some of the apartments, we give several illustrations, is spacious and handsome, one of its interior features being a stately screen, of the Corinthian order, at the lower end. The walls are adorned with emblazoned shields of the different arms of the Masters; and with the names, in gold letters at the upper end, of a dozen Sovereigns, a score of Princes, and nearly a hundred noblemen of high rank, enrolled amongst freemen of this historical Company. The picture-gallery, the drawing-room, the Court dining-room, the Court-room, the Library, and the Grand staircase and landing, contain a fine collection of pictures, including that of Henry VII. giving his Charter to the Company, portraits of Henry VIII., Charles I., Charles II., James II., William III., Mary II., and George III., William Pitt, Lord Eldon, the Duke of York, and the Duke of Wellington, besides Sir Thomas White, and other Masters of the Company. That of Sir Thomas White, who deserves remembrance as a great educational benefactor, is reproduced in one of our illustrations.



THE GREAT ORCHID AT ST. ALBANS.

#### A MONSTER ORCHID.

The taste for orchids has much increased of late years. The largest importers, Messrs. F. Sander and Co., of St. Albans, employ a dozen collectors, specially trained to search the forests of their native clime, and to procure the finest species. That firm has just received what may be truly called a gigantic plant. It is an orchid from Costa Rica, which has been known to exist, by Mr. Sander, for many years, collectors coming home and telling wondrous stories about it. The name it bears is "Cattleya Skinneri." It has deep rose-coloured flowers, of which from six to twelve are borne on each spike, each flower measuring four inches across. About sixty years ago Mr. Skinner visited Costa Rica, and entering some forest there, discovered a beautiful orchid. Being fond of plants he for-

warded dried flowers, we believe, to Kew Gardens, and Dr. Lindley named the plant, in honour of its discoverer, Cattleya Skinneri. Mr. Skinner himself must have seen the monster plant Messrs. Sander have just received, and later on many other botanical travellers enjoyed the sight of it. The veteran collector, M. B. Roez, once counted 1500 flowers on it, all open at one and the same time. This specimen was originally planted by a native in the crown of a tree belonging to the species Euphorbia, in his garden near the city of Cartago, and there it flourished many years. Owing to its bulbs being very soft and full of moisture, Cattleya Skinneri is very difficult to import. Last season Messrs. Sander received a large consignment of plants, which arrived in very bad order, as was the case with some consignments received in previous years. Relying, however, upon experience thus gained, the firm decided to risk this year the importing of the monster plant. This has happily been attended with great success, the specimen having arrived in capital order. It weighs about 12 cwt., is 7 ft. in diameter, and 6 ft. high. As soon as the telegram was received from Southampton, intimating that the plant had arrived in fine state, carpenters and bricklayers were set to work to build a special house for it, and it will be suspended on a chain from the ridge of the house over a tank of water. We earnestly hope the enterprising firm will be rewarded by the plant producing roots and growing well. To secure this is a difficult task, only to be accomplished by much anxious care.

Our Illustration, from a photograph, shows the plant situated in the tree, with its late owner at the foot of the tree, having an axe in his hands with which he was about to fell the tree. The latter was cut just below the plant; and, after the branches were lopped away, the monster was placed in a case, of sixteen tons ship's measurement, and conveyed to the port of Punta Arenas, whence it came home by the Royal Mail steamer Medway to Southampton.

#### ARAB GRAVES AT EL TEB.

One of the remaining Sketches by our Special Artist lately with the British military force in the neighbourhood of Souakim, on the Soudan coast of the Red Sea, represents an old place of sepulture which is regarded with much veneration by the Arab tribes as being the reputed burial-ground of Sheikhs whose religious character, in the esteem of

all good Mussulman believers, invests their memory with a peculiar degree of sanctity. We are not informed of their names, or of the date of their lives, and still less of their individual merits, whether as saints or prophets; but the late preaching of the Mahdi, repeated by Osman Digna to his local adherents, seems to have caused a revival of the interest felt by the natives in this assemblage of graves, with its central square monument of rude brickwork; and it was found to be adorned with a number of flags displayed on poles, having a rather melancholy appearance as they fluttered in the breeze, tattered, discoloured, and shabby, after the defeat of the Arabs by the British troops. Our soldiers, as a matter of course, refrained from damaging or desecrating these memorials of the religious sentiment of their brave and warlike foe.



THE LATE WAR IN THE SOUDAN: TOMBS AT EL TEB.  
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.



FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

Mr. George Espec Manners, second son of the Lady Adela Manners and the late Lord George Manners, and nephew of the Duke of Rutland, was on Thursday week married to Anna Sophia, youngest daughter of the late Mr. G. Gilstrap, of Winthorpe, Newark, at St. Mary's Church, Bryanston-square.

The marriage of the Rev. T. T. Peyton, second son of General Sir Thomas Peyton, Bart., of Swifts House, Bicester, to Miss Mary L. Style, youngest daughter of Sir William Style, Bart., of Caversfield House, Bicester, was solemnised at Caversfield church on the same day.

Sir Greville Smyth, Bart., of Ashton Court, Somerset, was married to Mrs. Edwards, eldest daughter of the Rev. H. H. Way, of Alderbourne, Bucks, and widow of Mr. George O. Edwards, of Redland Court, Gloucestershire, at St. George's Church on the same day. The ceremony was performed by the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

A marriage has been arranged between Mr. Edgar Vincent, financial adviser to the Egyptian Government, and Gladys Countess of Lonsdale.

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MR. Henry IRVING and Miss Ellen TERRY  
IN AMERICA.

OPINIONS OF THE NEW YORK PRESS.

"THE LYONS MAIL."

MR. IRVING appeared last evening in "The Lyons Mail." The fine performance was received with great enthusiasm. Mr. Irving repeated his thrilling and striking impersonation of Dubosc and Lesurques.—NEW YORK HERALD.

IRVING is certainly great in "The Lyons Mail." Last night there was a crowded house at the Star Theatre, and a due need of welcome and approval was accorded to Mr. Irving.—NEW YORK STAFF.

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

MR. IRVING'S Benedick is a picturesque work of art. Miss Terry's Beatrice is a comedy gem. Her playful capriciousness and touch-and-go vivaciousness were exceedingly natural, while his buoyant vivacity so impressed those in front that general good-nature dominated, and resulted in deservedly continuous demonstrations of pleasurable approval.—NEW YORK SUNDAY MERCURY.

THE twilight background of poetry which Mr. Irving has so cleverly managed to preserve in the representation of "Much ADO About Nothing," is to me the most marvellous of his achievements. It is no use our protesting with native stubbornness against his own personality. The moment we dare to consider the representation as a whole—and that is obviously the way in which he considers it—we have got to acknowledge, with shamefacedness, if you like, that Shakespeare's comedy has not been given here in our time with anything like this equable lift to all its merits. The whole play came up into view as it was conceived, resting, like a beautiful mirage, on its own plane of the imagination, and there was nothing that broke the pleasantly soft spell of its illusion. In its mechanism, which are, by comparison, hardly worth speaking of, as they are the means, and not the end, it is sufficient to say that in the costume and scenic illumination the presentation is infinitely more artistic, without ever being tawdry or over-elegant, than anything I have yet seen in the Shakespearean comedy line. And even here the disciplined, observing taste will be specially gratified by the associated effects rather than by the individual excellence. It is only when all the people are on that we get the full harmony of melting colours that must have cost the composer hours of study. Terry's charm is not in a feature or a line. It was not a particular excellence, but a general irradiation. It flickered in colour and shimmered in form. It had the waywardness of a child's desire—never the formality of a captive idea. It was not an extension, or width, or density, but an evanescent glow. The lambent pathos of her comedy is that one cannot understand. At the most joyous moments of Beatrice the jewels of speech betray the sadness of tears.—NEW YORK WORLD.

THERE is nothing upon Mr. Irving's stage which has not been placed there for some well-defined and studied purpose. The result is a representation so harmonious and beautiful that our theatre-goers have regarded it with astonishment and delight. There is less criticism in Mr. Irving's work than in that of any actor whom I ever saw. Where other men have studied to represent a character Irving has studied to represent a play; where they have placed themselves first and the play second he has considered the play of primary importance, and has regarded his own importance as being commensurate only with that of the part he assumed. Mr. Irving's present engagement at the Star Theatre is proving quite as successful as the former one he played there. The lobby of this house was packed yesterday afternoon when the doors were opened, and a large audience assembled last night to witness the performance. The business has been excellent throughout the week, and the encomiums pronounced by the public upon the representation of "Much ADO About Nothing" have been most unequivocal.—NEW YORK TRUTH.

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Our day on the "Wonder" was a most enjoyable one. We had a team of greys to start with—all four very nice ones. The near-side wheeler, a flea-bitten grey, is a model of a coach horse, very strong, but with plenty of quality and courage; while its companion, also a rare shaped one, looks a hunter all over, and the same may be said of the near-side leader, who, although not up to quite so much weight, looks like carrying a man very comfortably over a country. His partner, a dark grey, is a very good young mare. They went beautifully together. It would be hard to find a better pair of leaders. In fact, the whole team seemed very handy, and though the off-side wheeler took a bit of paying, he earned his wages.

The route was through the principal squares, getting into the Edgware-road by Hamilton-terrace, past the Crown, at Cricklewood, and to the Welsh Harp, where we stopped five minutes to give the horses some gruel, made of DR. RIDGE'S FOOD, have a glass of Welsh ale, which we strongly recommend, and chat with the cheery host, Mr. Warner.

The gruel had put new life into the horses, and the ale loosened the passengers' tongues. So we went on again very merrily through the little town of Edgware, turned to the left over Stanmore-common, as it is the prettiest road, and into the village of Stanmore, where, half-way up the long hill, at the Abercorn Arms, we stopped to change horses, and in five minutes' time were on again with another very useful lot.

The two-wheelers, chestnuts, are just what is wanted for their stage—compact, strong horses. The off-side leader is a wonderfully nice black horse, powerful, but with lots of quality, action, and any amount of pluck; while the near one is a very well bred bay, who, if he has not quite as much bone as the other, makes up for it in blood. He was a little awkward at starting; but considering his shoulders were a bit tender, and the inn we started from was in the middle of a steep hill, it was hardly to be wondered at. But it was only for a minute, and just enough to make a little agreeable variation; when he did go, he went.

The road all the way between Stanmore and St. Albans is very hilly, and the distance thirteen and a half miles; the Abercorn Arms, by-the-way, being exactly half-way from the Cellars to St. Albans. The first part of this stage, through Bushey and Watford, is, of course, much built over; but the gardens to most of the houses are exceedingly well kept and pretty, and make even this part of the journey interesting.

At Watford, we pulled up at the Rose and Crown, to give the horses some gruel, composed of the same material as before; and then on, through eight miles of thorough country lanes and as pretty scenery as one can imagine, to our destination.

The beginning of this stage is through woods and by some very nice houses; then into a corn-growing country, where we were glad to see most of the wheat (especially one piece belonging to Mr. Baily, the proprietor of the Windsor Coach, which is first-rate) looking much better than we expected to. Several fields of oats were cut. The farmers hereabouts do not seem to be asleep, as we noticed in several fields heaps of dung put out between the shocks of oats, and in one instance part of a field ploughed before the corn was all carried.

It seemed no time before we arrived at St. Stephen's, for although the hills were numerous, most of them were not very long, and we trotted steadily down and galloped merrily up them. Here we all admired the pretty garden, and in it the especially pretty summer-house (which is simply a grand old yew-tree, most artistically cut in the shape of a house), belonging to Mr. Findlay's residence.

The road from this village to the town is a terrible one for the horses, one long and steep hill, at the top of which stands the well-known hotel, the Peahen; but we turned to the left and on to the George, where we found a capital hot luncheon awaiting us. This we all did ample justice to, and afterwards there was plenty of time for those who cared to do so to see the town and the Abbey before the coach started again for London.

At half-past three o'clock we left the George and pulled up on the bridge by the Great Northern Station for the down train to come in, as people often come down by it for the sake of the drive back to town. However, it was so late on this occasion that after waiting some minutes we were obliged to go on before it came in.

We were now behind four nice, sporting-looking horses, smaller than we had had before, but they took us along at a rare pace, and made up for the time we had lost on the bridge. There was the shortest stage, eight miles—a good road all the way, and the country very pretty.

At South Mimms we got our last team, and a real good one it was too, four as good-looking nags, and as good goers, as anyone need to sit behind; the near wheeler, a chestnut, was as handsome as a picture, with plenty of strength and substance, and all quality; while the one beside him was almost as good, a long, low, brown horse, that looked a hunter all over, and we understand he is a good one too. If these horses are sent to St. Martin's-lane after a bit, we should advise our hunting friends to notice him, as well as several of the others. The two leaders, both chestnuts, were also very nice horses, well matched, and did their work beautifully. They had fifteen miles to do in an hour and forty minutes, including a stop for gruel at Finchley. The old saying is, "Tis money that makes the mare to go," but with us it seems as if it was DR. RIDGE'S FOOD that made the coach to go on so well; at any rate, if it puts as good heart and pluck into infants as it does into horses, it ought to be extensively used in the nursery.

We were due at Hatchett's Hotel at 6.15, and although the traffic through the last two or three miles of London streets was pretty considerable, our worthy coachman, Mr. Ramey, the proprietor of the "Wonder," was all there, and handled his team admirably, sending them along so that we arrived at our journey's end at the stated time to a minute.

This ended a very pleasant day, and after saying good-bye to Mr. Ramey and his worthy coachman and guard, Mr. Sam Clarke—to whom a great many words of praise are due, for any one more obliging and good-natured it would be hard to find—we went on our several ways home.

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DRAWN BY R. C. WOODVILLE.

"In justice to myself and my family, I feel it only right to wash my hands of Mrs. Boyle."

## BERNA BOYLE.

BY MRS. J. H. RIDDELL,

AUTHOR OF "GEORGE GEITH," "THE SENIOR PARTNER," ETC.

### CHAPTER XXXIII.



YOU ARE very good; but it is all of no use. I have said everything man could say, and yet she is adamant." It was Gorman Muir who spoke, striding up and down the room he had furnished with some vague idea of proving even to himself he was not beyond the pale of civilised life. He never looked handsome: his dark hair tossed back, his brown eyes flashing with a troubled light, his expression at once scornful and sorrowful, his head erect as though he were remonstrating against some terrible injustice—his whole attitude passionate, defiant, indignant. "If she could see him now," thought his father, who sat quite still—his face pale, his lips compressed, his features set—a type of the not less intense and impulsive, but far more dangerous side of Irish character.

The one man might have been swayed by argument or feeling; not so the other. The germ of everything which has made the glory of her children—all the traits that have filled to overflowing the sad cup of Ireland's shame—were, unknown to himself, planted deep in the nature of Hewson Muir. He was made precisely of the same stuff as the men who, through starvation and death, held Derry till relief came; who, though their daily wage might have been counted by pence, refused "blood money," even when the temptation came in the shape of a thousand pounds; who fought against "their natural enemies" at Fontenoy—fought for and with them on many a day since; done deeds bards might immortalise, and committed crimes angels have wept to see.

He was made of the sternest and the most enduring stuff that can enter into the composition of a human being. Nevertheless, he could but be regarded as full of contradictions. Hospitable yet mean, implacable yet generous, loyal yet rebellious, appreciative yet envious, cautious yet foolhardy, his temperament differed utterly from the poetic, passion-ridden, easily tempted, weakly strong nature of the man who called him father. Save a tendency to fall, there was no trace of likeness between them. Mr. Muir possessed one quality in

common with the Devil. He might have been great in sin, but he could scarcely have scaled any height of virtue. In the way of crime, Gorman could, given occasion, have trod step for step with his father to a certain point. There he would have stopped, and, by remorse and self-abnegation, tried, unavailingly it might be, but still tried, to atone for his fault.

To the father repentance was an unknown quantity; to the son it proved a wind which always seemed beating him back from some point he wanted to make. The one was an enemy to fear, the other a friend to doubt. Hewson Muir had none of the storm-driven nature which made Gorman's life now all sunshine, again all shade; but he possessed an intense power of concentration and resistance to external influences, that rendered the coast of his mind wilder and more treacherous than that whereon the waves of anger and sorrow dashed, exhausting their energies for evil in showers of blinding spray.

"Nonsense," said Mr. Muir, and the repression in his hard, cold voice formed a striking contrast to the tender softness and melting tone which rendered his son's lightest utterance almost a declaration of love. "You're talking a pack of rubbish. Here's a girl—I don't say she's bad looking, she is far from that, but she's nothing to make a song about—with-out a penny piece to her fortune, cast adrift by her father's relations, made none too welcome by her mother's side of the house, and you tell me she won't listen to reason—that she'd rather be a governess than marry you. The idea is totally beyond the bounds of sense. You've been too eager, my lad. You've let her see her power; she's trying you. As long as you follow she'll run. Just you stop, put your hands in your pockets and shout, 'Good-by! I'm tired of this,' and she'll come to you fast enough."

"You are quite wrong about the matter," returned Gorman, vehemently. "Did not I tell her I would make a fool of myself no longer? And I might just as well have spoken to a stone."

"Because you were not in earnest, and she knew it. She knew you couldn't leave her, and that you did not mean to leave her."

"But I did, I swear to you. If there ever was anything I intended more fully than another it was either to go to ruin faster than I have yet tried to do or marry a woman I dislike out of hand."

"I wish to the Lord you had done the last," interpolated Mr. Muir.

"I shall never do that now. Had I been able to bring myself to the state of mind in which a man marries a woman who is distasteful to him in every respect, except so far as utter honesty is concerned, your desire would have been fulfilled long since. As matters stand now, what I shall do one day is this: I will go away, and never return. Had it not been for

your kindness, father, during the months gone by I should have gone ere this." And Gorman, acting upon an impulse he was unable to check, stretched out his hand, which Mr. Muir took and held for a moment in an eloquent silence ere he answered,

"Before you are driven to that we'll make a try if we can't get for you what you've set your mind on. The girl wouldn't be my fancy, but if she's yours there's no call to talk more about the matter; you are putting as fine a chance as any man ever got, behind your back, and you want to marry a beggar who is daughter to the craziest old woman in Ulster."

"Yes, and if she were willing to marry me I should not object to fifty mothers-in-law each crazier than Mrs. Boyle."

"That's all very well till you've got your wife," answered Mr. Muir; "likely enough, after that, you'd think one too many."

"Would to Heaven I were tried!"

"Well, well, I've had my say; only Gorman, I'd have you bear one thing in mind, when a woman has money if you get tired of her there's satisfaction to be had out of her money, though there's none out of herself—and"—

"Look here," thundered Gorman, and he brought his clenched fist down on the table as he spoke, "if Berna Boyle were pitted with the smallpox, if she were stricken blind, if she were deaf, dumb, lame, a beggar in the street, she would still be Berna to me, the woman of my life, the love of my soul, the only sweetheart I have ever really had."

"God only knows what you see about her," said Mr. Muir. "When I was young I wasn't, perhaps, over particular; but I always did like a girl with some sort of warmth; a girl who, if she liked you, would throw her arms round your neck and kiss you, or let you draw her blushing face close to your own till"—

Gorman stamped his foot. "I know the girls you mean," he said, "and, I have no doubt, to some men they might seem charming; but I would wait a year for my mistress' smile, and think myself well paid if at the end of that time she vouchsafed me one gracious word."

"You have waited nigh upon a year," remarked Mr. Muir, "and she hasn't, apparently, given you even that."

"No; and she never will," answered Gorman. "There's the trouble. If I had only hope, only the ghost of a hope, I would serve for her as Jacob served for Rachel, and, were that possible, with a stouter heart."

"You'll never be like Jacob, I'm afraid, my man," retorted Mr. Muir. "Out of all the folk mentioned in Scripture he was, as well as I can gather, far and away the wisest. Only consider him when Laban wanted to get the better of the bargain in that matter of the sheep! What's that? you're muttering? 'Plague take Laban and the sheep, too!' Really



Gorman, I wonder at you, born and bred as you have been, in a Christian country, among Christian people."

"Father," said Gorman, "hereafter, perhaps, in the long, lonely days to come, when I am a grey-headed, wifeless, childless, desolate man, I know I shall still say I would rather have loved Berna Boyle hopelessly, than married one of the Blood Royal and had the Crown Lands settled upon me into the bargain."

"You know best, of course."

"Yes, I think I do. Though I may never have even one happy memory of fulfilment to look back upon, I shall always remember my short love-dream as the happiest portion of a life which might have been made useful to God, man, and myself—which I should have made useful, but for the cruelty of a girl you despise."

"That I despise! For the Lord's sake, Gorman, pay more heed to what you are saying. I don't despise Miss Boyle, or even that foolish creature the mother, who pays for all she has with a most proper punctuality. They're decent people, and have got good relations, but they are not RICH!"

"And if so, what then?"

"Why, you might be rich, that's all. You know as well as I do, though Mr. Garmsey bid you not make love to his daughter, he would give her to you to-morrow."

"I know that; and I know why."

"What's the why?"

"He wants a son-in-law who would make no inquiry about a sum of money which ought to have come to her under her grandfather's will; and, besides, if all I heard in Dublin is true, he has a mind to have a person staying at Beechfield he could scarce ask his daughter to stop in the house with."

"I see—but all that makes no odds to you. He gave you to understand Miss Garmsey would have five thousand pounds. Man! man! pause and consider; a face you've taken a fancy to may be very fine, but money's better. Think of all the diversion and satisfaction you might get out of a good income, and don't refuse the luck that's in a manner forced upon you, just because one girl's eyes are a trifle brighter than another's."

"If I cannot marry Miss Boyle, I shall die a bachelor," answered Gorman.

"Well, well, may be that wouldn't be so bad a fate. 'After single a good wife's best,' you know. Where would you find a happier man than Mr. Cornelius Desmond? If you could give up this notion of that girl at Clear Stream I would never speak to you again about Miss Garmsey."

"It is of no use; I cannot give up my notion, but I can go away."

"You shan't do that. I wish you had taken me into confidence long ago, but I hope it's not too late yet. The first thing you'll do, if you follow my advice, is get Mr. Vince on your side. He's no fool, and as far as I can gather he is none so fond of poor relations; he would, may be, counsel Miss Boyle for her good."

"I do not want anyone to counsel her. I would not take any wife who would only marry me because she was forced."

"Dear me, I am sure I can't tell which way to take you. Whatever you may think about Mr. Vince, though, I suppose you'll concede the mother ought to be told you want the daughter."

"I don't know who is to tell her. I won't."

"Somebody must; and I think Mr. or Mrs. Vince would be the best to break the news. I wouldn't wonder a bit if it was the thought of her mother had something to do with the girl's refusal."

Gorman shook his head.

"Will you leave it to me?" went on his father. "Will you let me see what I can do among them all?"

"Yes; I will leave it to you," agreed the younger man, after a moment's hesitation.

"And will you try and behave yourself like a rational being: attend to your work, and keep steady, and give Clear Stream a wide berth till I tell you to go there?"

"Yes; I think I can promise all that."

"You see, I understand from the old woman her daughter is determined to go out as governess, and that Mr. Vince won't let his wife help her to get a place. He wasn't best pleased to find the girl at Craigvallen at home among them when he came back from London—there's nothing the widow doesn't let out—and it's very sure he'll never ask her there again. If we mind what we are about, I believe the next time you ask Berna Boyle she will say 'Yes'; but don't be in too great a hurry to ask her. I think I can work the business if you will only have patience, though the Lord only knows what Bell will say when she hears all that is going on. She'll be neither to hold nor to bind."

What Mr. Gorman Muir observed in reply need not be chronicled. His comment dealt with the great Bell question in a summary and exhaustive manner.

#### CHAPTER XXXIV.

There probably never existed a man who entertained a higher opinion of his own abilities than Mr. Muir.

He held a firm belief that if in his youth he had been, what he called, "learned" Latin, Greek, Hebrew, modern languages, music, and painting he would have made a figure in them all. A doubt as to his grasp of intellect never occurred to him. He was wont to point to what he had done, and argue from thence as to what he could have done.

Living in the narrowest of narrow circles, associating on intimate terms with no one beyond the members of his own household, his self-esteem rarely met with any check; indeed, Bell was the only person who ever "took it upon her" to speak disparagingly concerning her father's "grip" of mind.

There is nothing safer than the assertion that it would be possible to move the world if we could find some place to stand while performing the operation.

Supposing, however, the place were found, matters might change their complexions; and so in like manner, had Mr. Muir been taught all the wisdom of all the schools it is possible some one would have discovered he did not possess better brains than his fellows.

Management he believed to be his strongest point; from the pettiest detail of domestic economy to the government of kingdoms, Mr. Muir believed himself infallible. He knew houses where the "greatest of waste" was going on, and he was wont to hold forth for hours upon how differently he would manage, whether in the position of "church or state minister." There were few things he liked so much as "putting things to rights" for other people, and it is consequently not wholly improbable that he regarded Gorman's intimation with secret complacency, affording, as it did, an admirable opportunity for putting his fingers into many pies, and extolling his own cleverness in extracting the fruit.

The first visit he paid was to Mr. Vince. On his way to Belfast he recited for the fiftieth time the many admirable remarks wherewith he proposed gaining over that gentleman to his side.

"He'll be only too glad to come round to my way of thinking," decided the farmer, having reached which satisfactory state of mind he found himself almost, at the same moment standing on the step of Mr. Vince's office.

The difficulties which beset obtaining an audience "damped" his courage somewhat. They cut two ways, causing him to feel Mr. Muir was a person of less importance than he had supposed, and Mr. Vince a greater. He walked across the outer office, expecting at once to be ushered into the private room, as when he called by appointment; and, instead, he found it necessary to give his name and almost pray for admission before the question of even asking him to wait could be entertained. It hurt his vanity sorely to find no one he saw remembered him, or cared about him, or desired to be troubled with him. At least six persons asked him the nature of his business, and then the matter had to be referred to a "grey-headed old man," who "allowed" he might wait till Mr. Vince was disengaged, and then his message should be taken in.

Mr. Muir, whose hands were bare except for tan, was also greatly exercised in his mind by the fact that a young clerk could not run round to the Ulster Bank without first putting on his gloves.

"The whole lot of them," he said afterwards, disparagingly, "were begun by Moses, and they'll be finished by Burgoyne"—which surnames referred to a well-known firm of tailors and an equally well-known individual who formerly kept a place of bodily entertainment in the passage running beside the Belfast News-Room which connects Donegal and High streets.

"It is just wonderful," considered poor Mr. Muir; "and to think this man is full cousin to that half-witted widow my son wants to get for mother-in-law."

"Kindly step this way," said a supercilious youth at this juncture; "Mr. Vince will see you."

If there were one place beyond another where Richard Charles looked more darkly, beautifully Presbyterian and respectable than another, it was in his office.

Predestination and election were writ large all over him. Nothing so light and frivolous as the Church seemed to have part or parcel in him. The cut of his clothes was founded on the Westminster Confession of Faith; the tie of his cravat and the solemnity of his shirt-front suggested the Shorter Catechism; whilst the gravity of his manners and the stern rigidity of his features could only have belonged to a man who knew the Longer off by heart, and had been "well grounded" in Chronicles first and second, and the books of the Kings of Israel.

All in vain Mr. Muir tried to assume an airy and easy manner. The atmosphere of Richard Charles's business sanctum proved too much for him. His remark, on being gravely asked to take a chair, that "sitting was as cheap as standing" produced simply no effect whatever. Mr. Vince might have been deaf so far as any response in tone, look, or manner indicated to the contrary.

"I was about to write to you, Mr. Muir," said the great man, in that voice which usually proves its owner to be a loyal Orangeman, a staunch Dissenter, a foe to the Pope, and an enemy to all those unfortunates who belong "to the back parts of Ireland."

"What about, Sir?" asked Mr. Muir, for the time being well-nigh cowed by the spectacle of Richard Charles seated in his well-padded office chair, before a great "leather-covered table bigger than the billiard table at my Lord's," with his plain heavy watch chain, his stiff collar, and a face colder, harder, and more passionless than the farmer's own. No human being except Marcella, daughter of Theophilus Carpenter, Esq., deceased, had ever seen that face relax, the lines of that severe countenance soften, and even to her he was not always as wax in the hands of the moulder.

There were times when she felt it better to "hold back" and let the rigid demon which occasionally possessed her lord have the ground all to himself. She had not married for love, and she could afford to be wise; and yet there were times when, like Berna, she felt Craigvallen was not half sufficient purchase money for the liberty and the possible future she had sacrificed when she said "Yes," to Richard Charles, and that marriage graphically described by Mrs. Boyle "came off."

"I was going to tell you," answered Mr. Vince, and his words had the same sort of power and weight that counting down sovereigns in the way of change produces on one who has been short, not merely of sovereigns, but of the smallest coin, "that after the first of next May I shall not hold myself responsible for the rent of Clear Stream Cottage."

Here was a collapse; but Mr. Muir rose to the occasion. As a tenant, Mr. Vince might be his superior—in money; yet, as a man, he was only his equal.

"I think," said the farmer, ignoring the word "know" simply from motives of politeness; and his tone, as he spoke, was Presbyterian and cautious as Mr. Vince's own—"if I remember me right, that in consideration of the lowliness of the rent, and the alterations I agreed to make, and did make, it was arranged between us that a year's notice ought to be the time; but I'll say nothing more; I won't hold you bound; between friends it ought not to signify."

Mr. Vince regarded his visitor with a stony stare. Friends, indeed! The owner of Craigvallen, a justice of the peace, the husband of Marcella, daughter of et cetera, a friend of a man who made his living out of land which he rented, cows whose milk was sold, hens that were sent to market!—the suggestion was impossible! Could the fellow have been drinking? Mr. Vince had never taken even a quarter of a glass too much wine in his life, but he knew other persons were not so abstemious; nay, did not a dreadful old reprobate who had been a boon companion of his uncle's on one terrible occasion offer to "stand treat" to Richard Charles, at the same time advising that gentleman "not to be backward"?

Imagination is sometimes very deceitful. At that moment Mr. Vince felt satisfied there was a smell of whisky in the air.

"I conceived," he said, "the arrangement to which you refer was intended to continue only for the first year; but if you place a different construction upon the matter, I will say the First of November. All I desire is to settle a date when I shall feel definitely relieved from all connection with Mrs. Boyle's affairs."

"You must have done a heap for her," remarked Mr. Muir.

"I have; and I should have felt willing to do even more had shemeth me in a proper spirit. But I need not intrude my private affairs on you, Mr. Muir. Shall we say the First of November twelvemonth?"

"No, Sir; when a gentleman deals fairly by me I hope I know how to deal fairly by him. I won't hold you beyond the first of May in next year. And now we have come to an understanding on that point I will, with your leave, give you a hint of what I have come to see you about to-day."

"Pray do not hint, Mr. Muir. If there is any matter with which you think I ought to be made acquainted you may speak out quite freely. Perfect straightforwardness has been the rule of my own life, and it is one I have found work well."

"I don't doubt it; anyone that sees what you are, can't be off thinking you must have got on some good road to fame and fortune."

Once again Mr. Vince looked hard at his visitor, whose manner he decided was not respectful. The root of the evil existed no doubt with Mrs. Boyle, and for the fiftieth time he determined to sever relations between that lady and himself.

"Perhaps you will be so good as to come to business, Mr. Muir," he said. "I have an engagement, and"—

"Certainly, certainly," agreed the farmer; but he got no further. He sat silent, considering how it would be best to open the pleadings.

"What you have to say bears reference to your present tenant, possibly," suggested Mr. Vince.

"Well, it does in a way. You see, I have a son"—

"Yes, and he"—

"Though I say it, he is as fine a young man as you'd meet in a day's journey. He was brought up by his mother's uncle, Mr. Trevasson, of Mount Michael, in the county Kilkenny, who gave him the best of educations, and would have made him his heir if it hadn't been the old man took a notion to marry a young girl, which caused my son to get his marching orders"—

"Rather hard on your son. He is out of employment now, I suppose?"

"No; that is not it either. He has taken to a business that is paying him right well, and out of which he might make a first-rate living if he'd stick to it. But of late he has got a bit unsettled; he has taken the notion of falling in love with the wrong person."

"I really am afraid, Mr. Muir, that is a matter in which it is not in my power to help you."

"I think it is. I am telling my story poorly. I wanted Gorman to come to you and tell it himself, but he wouldn't. He's terribly headstrong, though no better-hearted young fellow ever breathed. He might marry to-morrow the daughter of an estated gentleman, with five thousand pounds to her fortune, who belongs to a tip-top family, but he won't, for he has got the conceit he will have nobody in all the wide world but—Miss Boyle"—

"Miss Boyle," repeated Mr. Vince, genuinely surprised. "Do you mean Mrs. Boyle's daughter?"

"The very same. I can't but own it's a grief to me to see him flinging away his chances as a lad pelts pebbles into a river; still I shall not try to cross his fancy."

"That is a matter, of course, for you to decide."

"I know that, and I have decided it; but there is a hitch. So far as I can gather, Miss Boyle thinks she is above my son—his superior."

"Perhaps she is. I have not seen your son, remember. I only suggest, perhaps"—

"I understand. If you saw Gorman I am sure you would deem him every bit as good as your cousin's child—maybe better."

Mr. Vince winced. It does not follow that because a man has climbed from a very low rung of life's lofty ladder he likes constantly to be reminded of the fact.

"Pray understand," he said, "that I mean no offence when I say Mr. Boyle was a man of very good birth."

"And Gorman's mother was a woman well born. There is no better family in Donegal than the Gormans of Clonmellin. She ran away with me. Katty Gorman, that was her name; Katty Gorman."

"But somehow Miss Boyle does not see it," said Mr. Vince, ignoring Katty altogether.

"That is the case in a nutshell. For all my son is what he is, she does not look upon him with the favour she might. Till they have tried it, most young women think they can marry anybody. People similar to you and me, Mr. Vince, who have seen life and got a good hold of what the world is like, know better. It is not every man will take a girl without a penny piece in her hand; besides, there are other things against Miss Boyle; and though I may be willing to overlook, she ought to consider them. Therefore, what I thought was, if you would speak a few words to her, I'd take it very kind of you; very kind, indeed. You might put the matter sensibly before her, and she would mind you. I know she would."

"I could not do such a thing, Mr. Muir. I could not, really; and, to be quite plain, I would not if I could. I must utterly decline for the future to mix myself up in Mrs. Boyle's affairs. I have had so much unpleasantness and—and ingratitude already that I am determined to sever the connection. Miss Boyle is, I doubt not, a most well-conducted and deserving young lady; but one cannot dissociate a daughter from her mother. If you want advice or assistance you had better apply to Sir Herbert Boyle. He is as near a relation as I am. But whether you go to him or not, I really must beg of you not to come to me again about the matter. In justice to myself and my family, I feel it only right to wash my hands of Mrs. Boyle," and Mr. Vince waved his hands, as if to intimate he was thankfully finishing a very extensive wash indeed.

"Then there is no more to be said," remarked Mr. Muir, rising.

"There is no more to be said," agreed Richard Charles, rising also.

"And I'm very sorry I troubled you."

"Of course you could not know by intuition my sentiments on this unpleasant subject."

"If I had known you may be sure you wouldn't have seen me here."

"Thank you, Mr. Muir; that is precisely the observation I should have expected from a person of your excellent judgment."

"I'll bid you good morning now, Sir," said the man thus complimented; and as he went he thought those individuals who spoke ill of Mr. Vince "mightn't be so far wrong."

(To be continued.)

On the retirement of Mr. Richard from the secretaryship of the Peace Society, his friends have arranged to present him with £3000. Of this sum £2000 has been subscribed.

A Companionship of the Bath has been conferred on Mr. Arnold Royle, M.R.C.S., &c., who had been in medical attendance on the late Duke of Albany since 1875.

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ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

There is a larger number than usual of "important" drawings in Pall-Mall East, and although some of the more prominent of these do not improve upon acquaintance, the exhibition strikes us as the best the society has held for years.

The lately elected Associates have been well chosen. Mr. Albert Moore is a valuable acquisition, though in water-colours he only vouchsafes to us the same Greek maiden who for so long has figured in oil in various positions of languor or *malaise*. The attitude in No. 278 is more than usually constrained, and the proportions exaggerated, but the head is admirably foreshortened, and the colouring both of this and No. 265 has the rarest beauty and *distinction*. The small landscapes by Miss M. Forster have also a very exceptional refinement. J. H. Henshall's "Thoughts" (203), a girl reading in a library, hardly justifies the large dimensions of the drawing, but the force and truth of the painting (though of a kind more appropriate to oil) are full of promise. A drawing of an old artist receiving "His Model" (94), by W. J. Wainwright (an artist elected last year), is, however, disappointing—it has the technical merit, but at the same time the ugliness and emptiness of thought of a too large section of foreign art.

Most of the best-known members send at least one work favourably or fairly representative. Sir John Gilbert occupies the post of honour with his illustration of the scene from Shakespeare between Timon of Athens and the "charlish philosopher." It shows in the sombre background—so well attuned to the sentiment of the subject—the President's command of noble landscape colouring. Mr. Stacey Marks has found a field for displaying his peculiar humour and skill in bird painting in an illustration of a German fairy tale, where "The Captive Princess" (27) is guarded by enchanted birds. Carl Haag has a large drawing as broad in light and shade and powerful in colour as usual of "Eliazar Returning from his Mission" (116). The servant of Abraham, with a smile of satisfaction, leads the file of camels, on one of which sits Isaac's future wife, playing what, did we not know the immemorial antiquity of such stringed instruments, might be taken for a modern guitar. Alma Tadema contributes a small drawing of a Roman girl placing a votive festoon at, in the words of the title, "A Street Altar" (247)—i.e., a small shrine, formed by an apse-like niche in a wall, such as may still be seen at Pompeii. This, however, for Mr. Tadema, is a rather slight effort. Henry Wallis continues his illustrations of the "Merchant of Venice" (19), in colouring appropriately Venetian in quality. Birket Foster's "Lane near Dorking" (9); F. Tayler's spirited "Return from Stag Hunting" (291); H. Moore's brilliant marines, particularly the effect of swell in No. 68; F. Powell's scientifically true sea-pieces, of which the largest, if not the best, is entitled "A Summer Breeze" (173); O. Brierly's animated shipping; G. A. Fripp's unusually large coast scenes; R. Beavis's "Clearing the Wreck—Rising Tide" (40); T. Lloyd's ripe barley-field (55); R. Thorne Waite's broadly treated cornfield (166); E. Buckman's vigorous studies of character; and the contributions of O. Weber, Mrs. Allingham, Miss Clara Montalba, E. A. Goodall, W. Collingwood, A. D. Fripp, W. C. T. Dobson, T. Danby, C. Rigby, and M. Hale are also creditably distinguished by the well-known characteristics of their authors.

Mr. A. W. Hunt's numerous works evince a wide range of sympathy and power of representation; but his style appears to be becoming looser and less careful—less suggestive of the subtleties of nature. We cannot but think that the black sky of "The Deserted River Bed" (36) is more like smoke than cloud. H. K. Marshall's views in London continue to afford us much pleasure. A striking example is No. 30, "At Hyde Park-corner, looking West," with its peculiar yet faithful contrasts of cold grey diaphanous shadow, dirty-brown fog and smoke, and half-smothered glory of sunset. All honour to artists who discover some of the inexhaustible wealth of picturesqueness in the structures of this inchoate Babylon, and still more in the weird effects, artificial and natural, through which we so often see them. No. 7, by A. Goodwin—a solitary bend of a brimming river, overshadowed by trees, glowing in the stilly sunshine—is aptly entitled "Silence," and we willingly accept the suggestion of the quoted line, "Here with fantastic garlands came Ophelia." But in other works here and habitually the artist is prone to show too much of the mechanism of his poetical intentions. This remark hardly applies to H. Clarence White's "Snowdon" (113). The materials have passed through the alembic of the artist's mind, and the result, mannered though it be, is distinctly poetical and beautiful. J. W. North's "March in English Meadows" (243) is exquisitely harmonious in its cold, grey relations, characteristic of the month. Why does he not always give us complete landscapes like this?—not mere foreground studies like No. 33. J. Parker's "Wargrave, on the Thames" (3), is charming, and not the less so because it may remind the spectator of Frederick Walker. In "The Bride of Landernau" (15) the artist has possibly been looking also at Birket Foster. Mr. Parker has the wherewithal, we believe, to produce work original and of high quality. There is a superabundance of sound and thorough realism in "The Deserter" (140), and other able works, by C. Gregory, but parts sadly lack subordination. Mr. Du Maurier's "Two Thrones" (269)—the "nightingale" carrying off the inconstant admirers of the "bird of paradise"—is, if we remember rightly, a version in colour of an illustration in *Punch*. It is the best thing in painting by the accomplished artist we have seen. What is the matter with Mr. Poynter? We cannot accept a "Psyche" (170) with neck and wrists such as these. Nor is "Viola" (125), with her knobby fingers on her violin, much better. And who can admit an "Arcadia," rural or ideal, with the colouring of No. 80? Recalling what he has done, surely Mr. Poynter should send something more worthy to the Society of which he is a member.

In conclusion, we can only, so restricted is our space, recommend to the visitors' notice the works of N. Tayler, E. A. Waterlow, B. Bradley, S. J. Hodson, E. K. Johnson, K. G. Glindoni, G. Davidson, and R. Barnes.

By the Princess Louise there is a study of a head (174), a Canadian landscape (263), and a sketch of "The Mission, Santa Barbara, California" (224). T. J. G.

At a conference of the Ancient Order of Foresters, held in Leeds last Saturday, it was stated that the executive council for this year and next, and the high court meeting for 1885, would take place at Leeds. The number of members is close upon 620,000, showing an increase in fifty years of 610,000.

The arrivals of live stock and fresh meat at Liverpool last week from American and Canadian ports amounted to 1654 cattle, 23 sheep, 6242 quarters of beef, and 684 carcasses of mutton; against a total of 1336 cattle, 428 sheep, 8433 quarters of beef, and 983 carcasses of mutton, showing an increase in the imports of live cattle, but a falling off in sheep and fresh meat.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A S (Manchester).—A very welcome budget of games, and they shall soon appear.  
F H (Manchester).—Thanks; the correction of the second problem is noted. The new variation appears good and sound.  
W W J (Wellington).—It found interesting the game shall appear.  
E B (Oxford).—If, in No. 2084, after 1. P to B 6th, Black play 1. K to Kt 6th, the continuation is 2. K to B 5th.  
Gyr (Navenby).—We have not the file at hand; but with the key-move, 1. B to Q Kt 3rd, the variations should present no difficulty. The problem, as we assured you before, is correct.  
Duplicate (Acton).—The answer to both your questions is Yes. For every Pawn advanced to the eighth square a player can claim a Queen or any other piece he pleases, except, of course, a King.  
NOTE.—Correspondents will please note that this problem can not be solved by way of 1. Kt to K B 3rd. Black has a good defence to that line of play in 1. R (from Kt 8th) to Kt 3rd.  
G P (Upper Tooting).—We have addressed you through the post.  
H T.—The key move of the author's solution of No. 2087 was published several weeks ago.  
A G P (Willenden).—Much too simple for publication.  
B COKE, GORDON, and KEMPE (Chicago).—We are glad to hear from you, and to enrol your names in our list of solvers.  
CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 2077 received from John Flaxman (Warrnambool, Victoria); of No. 2084, from Jones Ock (Rangoon, British Burmah); of No. 2090, from Hoffede de Groot (Groningen), F M (Edinburgh), and T Brandreth.  
CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 2091 received from H B, G Joicey, Heyward, Carl Friedleben, A Schmucke, H J Elder, J A B, H H Noyes, S Lowndes, E Casella, (Paris), J G Anstee, G R Liscard, R Worters, Emme (Darlington), T H Holdron, G W Law, Jaffer Junior, W Hillier, Otto Fudler (Ghent), C W Milson, H Wardell, Aaron Harper, R T Kemp, H Lucas, R Gray, M O Halloran, D W Keil, H Blacklock, James Pilkington, S Bullen, L Wyman, H K Awdry, A W Scrutton, Ben Nevis, F M (Edinburgh), W G S (Liverpool), John Perry, Alpha, W E Manby, Irene, I L Greenaway, Captain Baldock, Rev. W. Anderson, T P S, D L Arthur, C B N (H.M.S. Asia), E Featherston, F G Parsloe, G S Oldfield, L Falcon (Antwerp), M Tipping, B H Wood, E Elsbury, G S Coxo, G Oswald, T Sinclair, L Nathali, J Shearer, R M Brooks, L Sharswood, and Philip Richmond.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS.  
No. 2089.

WHITE.  
1. Q to Q B sq  
2. Kt to B 7th  
3. B to B 5th. Mate.

BLACK.  
K to K 3rd \*  
Kt to Q 2nd

\* If Black play, 1. P takes Kt, the answer is 2. Q to B 7th, mating by 3. Q to Q B 6th.

No. 2090.

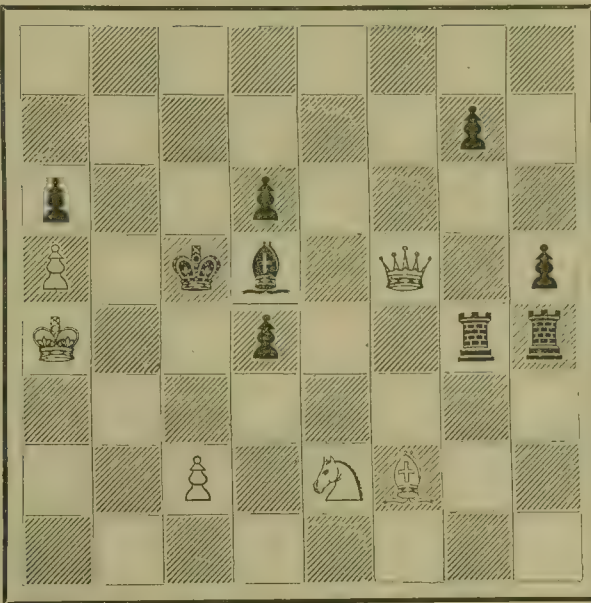
WHITE.  
1. R to Kt 7th  
2. R to K B 7th  
3. Mates accordingly.

BLACK.  
Kt to K 3rd \*  
Any move

\* If Black play, 1. Kt to Q 4th, White's answer is, 2. Kt to K 2nd (ch); if 1. Kt to Kt 4th, the continuation is, 2. R to Q 7th (ch), mating in each case on the following move.

PROBLEM No. 2093.  
By A. TOWNSHEND.

BLACK.



WHITE.  
White to play, and mate in three moves.

An amusing Skirmish at the Divan between Mr. SUTTON and Mr. J. H. BLACKBURNE.  
(Bishop's Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. S.) BLACK (Mr. B.)  
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th  
2. P to K B 4th P takes P  
3. B to B 4th Q to R 5th (ch)  
4. K to B sq P to K B 4th

A counter-gambit which is not to be commended; but in Mr. Blackburne's hands, as will be seen, it leads to a lively and successful attack.

5. Kt to Q B 3rd  
We should have preferred 5. P to K 5th. White is already on his defence.  
5. Kt to K B 3rd Kt to K B 3rd  
6. P to Q 3rd P to K Kt 4th  
7. Kt to K B 3rd P to R 4th  
8. P to K R 4th P to K R 3rd  
9. Kt to Kt sq P to Kt 5th  
10. Kt to K 5th R to R 2nd  
11. Kt to K 2nd P takes P  
12. B takes P  
The only move to save the beleaguered Knight.  
12. Q to B 4th Q to Q 4th  
13. Q to K B sq P to Q 4th  
14. B to Q Kt 3rd Q Kt to Q 2nd  
15. Kt to Kt 3rd B to B 4th (ch)  
Initiating a masterly combination.

The *National Tidende* of Copenhagen, a paper containing a chess column of more than ordinary interest, quotes the following problem by D. Rahmer, of Vienna, as an illustration of unconscious imitation in the composition of problems:—

White: K at K square; R at Q B 6th; Kt at K 8th; B at K Kt 6th; Pawn at K 3rd. (Five pieces.)  
Black: K at K 4th. (One piece.)  
White to play, and mate in three moves.  
The problem imitated (unconsciously) is the work of the well-known American composer, Mr. W. A. Shinkman, and is here described.  
White: K at Q square; R at K B 6th; B at Q Kt 5th; Kt at Q 7th; Pawn at Q 2nd. (Five pieces.)  
Black: K at Q 5th. (One piece.)  
White to play, and mate in three moves.

The return-match between the Manchester and Athenæum Chess Clubs was played on the 19th ult. at the new rooms of the first-named association in Ducie-buildings. The first match resulted in a victory for the Athenæum by 15 to 12, with one draw, but victory changed sides in the return-match, which was won by the Manchester Club by 11 games to 7, with 3 draws. In the two matches 49 games were played, of which the Manchester Club won 23, the Athenæum 22, the remainder being drawn. The following is the pairing of the players and their respective scores:—

MANCHESTER.	Won.	Dr.	ATHENÆUM.	Won.	Dr.
Steinkuhler ...	1	0	Brevig ...	0	0
Lord ...	1	0	Pollitt ...	0	0
Fish ...	1	0	Boulaye ...	1	0
Lewis ...	1	0	Higginbotham ...	0	0
Hardman ...	1	0	Worrall ...	0	0
Riddell ...	0	0	Lowenthal ...	2	0
Carter ...	0	1	Hamel ...	1	1
De Metrio ...	2	0	Evans ...	0	0
Boyer ...	1	0	Substitute ...	0	0
Horrocks ...	0	1	Lewis, R. ...	0	1
Chrimms ...	1	0	Minati ...	0	0
Labone ...	1	0	Marriott ...	0	0
Becker ...	0	1	Clayton ...	0	1
Clarke ...	0	0	Freisinger ...	2	0
Green ...	1	0	Armstrong ...	1	0
Total ...	11	3	Total ...	7	3

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated Feb. 10, 1876), with three codicils (dated Feb. 12 and March 2, 1877, and Nov. 28, 1879), of the Right Hon. Montagu, Earl of Abingdon, and Baron Norreys of Rycote, D.C.L., late of Wytham Abbey, Berks, and of No. 18, Grosvenor-street, who died on Feb. 8 last, was proved on March 31 by the Hon. Francis Leveson Bertie, and the Hon. and Rev. Alberic Edward Bertie, the sons, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £36,000. The testator makes certain pictures, plate, jewellery, works of art, and other articles, heirlooms to go with Wytham Abbey, and the remainder of the household furniture and effects there he leaves to his eldest son, Montagu Arthur, the present Earl, who succeeds to the family estates. There are various provisions in favour of his younger children, and an annuity is given to a late servant. The residue of his real and personal estate he settles on his son Francis Leveson.

The Irish probate, granted at Londonderry, of the will (dated Sept. 24, 1883) of the Right Hon. George Philip Stanhope, Earl of Chesterfield, late of Rockwood, Castlederg, in the county of Tyrone, who died on Oct. 19 last, at Killendurragh, to Alexander Montgomery Stewart, J.P., one of the executors, has just been sealed in London, the aggregate value of the personal estate in England and Ireland exceeding £4500. The testator, after making provision for his wife out of the monies receivable under his life assurance policy, and giving legacies to two servants, leaves the residue of his property to his cousin, the said Mr. A. M. Stewart.

Letters of administration of the personal estate of the Right Hon. Victor Alexander, Earl Grosvenor, late of Saighton Grange, near Chester, who died on Jan. 22 last, intestate, save as to the appointment of guardians of his children, were granted on the 19th ult. to the Right Hon. Sibell Mary, Countess Grosvenor, the lawful widow and relict, the value of the personal estate exceeding £5000. The deceased not having left a will disposing of his property, his personal estate by law becomes divisible among his family in the proportion of one third to his widow, and two thirds between his children.

The will (dated Feb. 16, 1877) of Mr. Samuel Cundey, late of No. 5, Old Burlington-street, tailor, who died on Dec. 19 last, has been proved by Mrs. Eliza Cundey, the widow and sole executrix, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £60,000. The testator devises and bequeaths everything of which he shall die possessed to his wife for her whole and sole use and benefit absolutely.

The will (dated Sept. 17, 1844), with four codicils, of Mr. John Heelas, late of The Holt House, Wokingham, Berks, formerly carrying on business at Wokingham and Reading as a draper, who died on Feb. 9 last, has been proved by John Heelas and Daniel Heelas, the sons, and William Wilson Wheeler, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £47,000. The testator leaves to his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Ann Heelas, £100 and all his household furniture and effects, and for life a house at Wokingham and an annuity of £500; a special legacy of £2000 for the benefit of his son Wilberforce and his family; and a few other legacies. The residue of his real and personal estate is to be divided between all his children in equal shares, the children of any deceased child to take their parent's share.

The will (dated March 29, 1882), with two codicils (dated Oct. 5, 1882, and Feb. 8, 1883), of Mr. John Gallop, late of Stanhope-gardens, Bournemouth, who died on Feb. 25 last, has been proved by the Rev. Edward Jordan Gallop and Reginald George Gallop, the sons, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £40,000. The testator bequeaths £300 and his furniture, plate, pictures, household effects, horses and carriages, to his wife, Mrs. Adèle Hélène Sophie Gallop; and legacies to his brother, nephews, niece, god-children, and others. The residue of his real and personal estate is to be held, upon trust, to pay the income of one moiety to his wife, for life, and, subject thereto, for all his children in equal shares.

The will (dated Jan. 10, 1884) of Colonel Compton Alwyn Scrase-Dickins, Knight of the Legion of Honour, late of Horfield Barracks, near Bristol, who died on Feb. 11 last, at Tamworth, has been proved by Colonel William Drummond Scrase-Dickins, the brother, the sole executor, the value of the personal estate exceeding £15,000. The testator devises and bequeaths all his real and personal estate to his said brother for his own use and benefit.

ARAB CHIEFS AT A BESIEGED TOWN.

The Artist, in his drawing of the arrival of two envoys from a warlike party of Arabs at the gate of a besieged town, where they are met by the governor or commander of the garrison, may have been inspired by the general feeling of sympathy with such distressing straits endured by the defenders of many places in the Soudan; but he has chiefly aimed at producing a characteristic representation of these incidents in Eastern military history. The details of costume, weapons, and equipment will at once be recognised as peculiar to that region of the world; and the hopeless situation of the famishing garrison and townsfolk may be inferred from the wretched aspect of the sentinel at the gate, who seems at the point of starvation; though in the comparatively robust figure of his commander, who has probably taken care that his own household shall not lack daily food, there are no symptoms of bodily suffering. The train of veiled women, who are Baksheesh Bey's wives and female slaves, waiting in the background to abide the result of this negotiation for a surrender, add to the pathetic interest of the scene; and we can only hope that they will be left unmolested, like those of Tokar, instead of being captured and sold as slaves. Oriental habits and customs, especially among the Arabs, both in South-west Asia and in East Africa, have changed very little since the beginning of the Mohammedan era, at least in the wilder countries beyond the Desert. It may even be said that the race of Ishmael has never much changed from the primitive type in the patriarchal ages, and perhaps it will retain its peculiar ways of life to the end of time.

A few facts concerning the forthcoming publication of the correspondence of the Princess Alice with the Queen are given by the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The book will probably be in the hands of the public on Monday, May 12. The same two portraits appear in the English edition as were given in the original issue in Germany. In the "get up" of the book good taste has been shown. It is bound in "peacock blue," and the word "Alice," surmounted by a crown, is the only decoration of the cover. Fifteen thousand copies of the book, it is said, are to be printed; and it is expected that 10,000 of these will find their way into the hands of the public on the day of issue. Mr. Mudie, it is understood, will at first put into circulation a thousand copies; and the middlemen in Paternoster-row, those who dole out the book to country booksellers, have subscribed for large numbers. For instance, Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.'s name is down for 2500 copies, Messrs. Hamilton and Co. for a like number, and Messrs. W. H. Smith and Sons take 1000 copies.





R. Caton Woodville  
1884.

ARAB CHIEFS AT THE GATE OF A BESIEGED TOWN.  
DESIGNED BY R. C. WOODVILLE.



## NOVELS.

Grateful remembrance alone would be sufficient to secure a reading for *An Old Man's Love*, by Anthony Trollope (William Blackwood and Sons), for it was the last complete novel written by a deceased writer of wonderful popularity in his time. This posthumous work, like all the author's works, bears undeniable witness to his gift of story-telling, to his faculty of making a great deal out of next to nothing by his art of awakening expectation and keeping the dialogue fluent. It is evident, too, that he had carefully studied and clearly delineated his few characters in his own mind; and that he believed himself to have described a model of a noble, high-minded, unselfish, philosophically Christian gentleman in Mr. Whittlestaff, a model of a good-looking, staid, grateful, and exceedingly proper young lady in Mary Lawrie, a model of the true and manly lover in John Gordon, and models of a semi-humorous and semi-pathetic wife, of a semi-amusing and semi-disgusting husband, in Mrs. and Sergeant Baggett. And it must be acknowledged that the "old man" does show his "love" in generous fashion, that the young lady does behave most amiably and decorously, that the young man does exhibit much honest constancy and straightforward manliness, and that the Baggetts are entertaining, touching, and revolting, each in her and his degree. Some readers, however, will hold that the whole business is managed in too dispassionate and too matter-of-fact a manner to admit of their sympathising with the old man or the young woman, or of their taking much interest in anybody. It was certainly the old man's duty to "take a back seat," as the Americans say, when he found how matters stood with the young lady and John Gordon; and there was certainly nothing romantic in the feelings which prompted the young lady to accept the offer of the old man. Still it is not every man who can be strong enough to do his plain duty, and it is not every fatherless, motherless, and penniless young lady who can turn out of her benefactor's house and refuse a comfortable maintenance for the sake of a beloved but distant and perhaps defunct object. Especially when there has been no express engagement, when there have been no letters, and when the young lady has a Mrs. Baggett continually at her elbow to make delicate remarks about the black ingratitude of hesitating to comply with any wish of him who boards you, and lodges you, and clothes you—of hesitating, in fact, to give yourself away for a material consideration. A love-story of this kind—where the self-sacrificing old man conceals his feelings remarkably well, if he be more than very moderately in love, and where the young lady whom he so nobly resigns would have married him out of mere gratitude mingled with respect—is not likely to make a deep impression upon any but mature, practical, and, to a certain extent, calculating readers. There is little warmth and no fervour in the story, though there is no lack of deep but tranquil earnestness; and of stirring incident there is not a tittle, though there are several striking situations. It is essentially a quiet tale, and should be read in a contemplative spirit, so far at least as the serious portions are concerned; the comic parts, in which the Baggetts and a noisy parson, who will be funny, are the chief performers, must be approached in a different mood.

A novel very far above the average, both in design and in execution, is *The Dailys of Soddan Fen*: by the author of "Four Crotchets to a Bar" (Richard Bentley and Son), wherein the author has aimed high and has gone very near the mark. Persons, places, scenes, ideas, choice of subject, style of writing, all are out of the common, all have the charm of originality and freshness. Terrible and even revolting as the catastrophe is, it is quite in accordance with dramatic propriety and with what is called poetical justice. The contrast between the characters of James Daily the father, and Adam Daily, the son, is admirably worked out; the portrait of Susan Daily is a gem; the sketches of the children are delightful; the picture of Jessie is charming beyond measure; the purpose of the story is noble and worthily set forth. James Daily is a poor tiler and thatcher, of Slumsby, in the fens of Lincolnshire; he believes himself to have "rights" which date from the seventeenth century, when Dutchmen came over to drain our fens; and he spends his life in sullen work and brooding over the injustice, which, as he holds, prevents him from being the owner of Soddan Fen. His claim is based upon his name and his undoubted descent from a certain Daily who had reclaimed the land from the waters, and who had died a martyr's death at the hands of his mistaken compatriots and neighbours. The story of this martyrdom is told with much power and pathos. But, even if James Daily were the martyr's heir, the very same tradition that admitted the heirship held that, so far as Soddan Fen was concerned, it had been given by the martyr as a common possession for ever to the villagers of Slumsby. Meanwhile, the property, or a great part of it, is enjoyed neither by the villagers nor by James Daily, but by a member of the prolific and well-known family of Smith. How Adam Daily, eldest son of James, is educated by the incomparable Jessie into a hero; how he becomes master of the property to which his family have so long considered themselves to have a claim; and how he disappoints and infuriates his less unselfish father by a Quixotic use of the ownership, is to be discovered

by anyone who cares to have the pleasure of reading an unusually meritorious novel. The story is not intensely interesting throughout, but in the main it is something better than merely interesting, and is altogether a very creditable performance.

How to construct and tell a story, and how to introduce a hero and heroine so that their fate shall be the main object of a reader's curiosity, is an art which does not appear to have been yet acquired by the anonymous author of *Juliet* (Richard Bentley and Son), a novel of the rambling, incoherent, spasmodic sort. It is impossible to sympathise with the personages, or to comprehend either their speech or their actions, with the exception of some love-making and kissing, both of which come by nature and never appeal in vain to readers who are flesh and blood. The heroine, who gives the title to the novel, is one of the most extraordinary young women that ever lurked between the covers of a romance, and it is difficult to see why she should have been raised to heroic honours. She certainly behaves with great originality when, finding that the young man she loved is unworthy of her and something worse than merely faithless, she goes to the old gentleman whom she had refused and tells him that if he will ask her to marry him now she will do so thankfully; but Molly, the "dales-girl," would have made a better heroine. The hero, or rather the knave, of the story is an artist more odious than the most odious artist that ever yet was portrayed, according to a pretty large experience, in a novel; that such a creature should have won the affections of not fewer than three lovely girls is almost incredible; and that he should have had the rank impudence to play fast and loose with any one of them is even less easy to believe. Readers who can enter into the motives, the thoughts, the views, the manners, the language, of the various characters, who, by-the-way, are as the sand upon the seashore for multitude, and all about equally important or unimportant, will probably see a great deal that is interesting and entertaining in the three volumes; but there are many persons upon whom a perusal will have the effect of making them feel as though if they were wandering in a labyrinth without a clue.

## THE CHURCH.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has returned to Lambeth Palace.

The installation of the Very Rev. Dr. Oakley as Dean of Manchester took place on Wednesday.

Earl Percy, M.P., presided at the annual meeting of the Church of England Young Men's Society at King's College on Tuesday evening.

Dr. Barry was on Thursday week enthroned in Sydney Cathedral as Bishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of Australia. Eleven other Bishops were present at the ceremony.

Dr. Jacobson, who recently resigned the see of Chester, continues in ill-health, and has not left his residence since his resignation. He is, however, free from pain.

The Bishop of Llandaff has started a diocesan fund, for which he needs £50,000, to supply additional churches, clergy, and missionaries. He has given £1000, and twelve other persons have given similar sums, and nearly £7000 has been received by smaller donations.

Bishop Titcomb, coadjutor to the Bishop of London for Northern and Central Europe, opened last Saturday night the fourth of Miss Leigh's homes for English girls employed in shops and houses of business in Paris, at 26, Faubourg St. Honoré.

Dr. Stubbs was yesterday week consecrated Bishop of Chester in York Minster. The officiating prelates were the Archbishop of the province and the Bishops of Durham and Manchester. The choir was crowded, and the Lord Mayor and Corporation of York attended in state.

The Right Rev. W. S. Wilson, Bishop of the United Dioceses of Glasgow and Galloway, was, at a special service in Trinity Episcopal Church, Ayr, yesterday week, presented with a pastoral staff, episcopal ring, and an address, on completion of the twenty-fifth year of his bishopric.

The Archbishop of York has expressed his sympathy with the Wakefield bishopric movement, and has promised to contribute £200 towards the fund. One of the last acts of the late Bishop of Ripon was to promise to make over £300 per annum from the see of Ripon to the see of Wakefield.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, yesterday week, the Ven. Samuel Stone, Archdeacon of Dublin, was consecrated Bishop of Kilmore, before the Bishops of Meath, Down and Connor, Derry, Ossory, and Killaloe. The Dean of Tuam preached the sermon. A large congregation, including several hundred clergymen, the members of the General Synod sitting in Dublin, attended in a body.

The twenty-second anniversary festival of the Church of England Temperance Society has been celebrated this week in the metropolis. Last Saturday afternoon the Earl of Dartmouth laid the foundation-stone of a mission church in connection with the parish of St. Mary, Lewisham, of which the Hon. and Rev. Canon A. Legge is the Vicar. The new building is the fourth mission church which has been added to the

parish since 1882. The site has been given by the Earl of Dartmouth, who has also contributed £500 to the building fund; while the Rochester Diocesan Society has contributed £125, the Hon. and Rev. Henry Legge £100, and the Earl of St. Germain's £50.

The new church built by the Fathers of the Brompton Oratory, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was opened yesterday week in the presence of a large congregation, comprising the leading members of the English Roman Catholic aristocracy and most of the Roman Catholic bishops who are assembled in London this week to hold their annual synod. The consecration, which was carried out with all the elaborate ritual of the Roman Catholic Church, was performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Bagshawe, Bishop of Nottingham (a member of the Oratorian Order, by whom the foundation-stone was laid in June, 1880), assisted by Bishop Patterson and Bishop Weathers. The new church is situated at the junction of the Brompton-road with Cromwell-road, having the South Kensington Museum on its western side. The style of architecture selected by the architect, Mr. H. A. Gribble, is that known as the Italian Renaissance. The entire cost up to the opening has been £80,000, which has been defrayed by the clergy of Oratory and by some benefactions from the Roman Catholic community in this country and abroad.

The nomination of a successor to the Roman Catholic See of Ossory, in the place of Dr. Moran, took place on Thursday week, Cardinal McCabe presiding. Dr. Murphy, of Carlow College, received eighteen votes, Dr. McDonald fourteen, and Canon Hennessy three.

Last Saturday the memorial stone of a new Congregational Church at Lower Edmonton was laid by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., in the presence of a numerous gathering.

## BENEVOLENT OBJECTS.

The Mercers' Company has given twenty-five guineas to the Church of England Central Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays.

Sir Frederick Milner acknowledges, with grateful thanks, the receipt of £5 from R. C. C. C. D., towards his collection for "The Cambridge Fund for Old and Disabled Soldiers."

At the annual festival dinner of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, which took place last week at Willis's Rooms, the contributions were over £1600.

A Donkey Show in connection with the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was held on Thursday week in Bournemouth Winter Gardens, the prizes being distributed by Lady Taylor.

The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs were among a numerous party of guests on Thursday week at the fourteenth annual ball of the Metropolitan and City Police, given at the Cannon-street Hotel. The ball was a complete success.

Mr. F. T. Isitt presided on Thursday week in the Albion Tavern at the seventeenth anniversary dinner in aid of the funds of the Porters' Benevolent Association. The subscriptions, headed by the chairman for fifty guineas, amounted to £3300, including £144 collected by the porters.

A deputation waited on the Lord Mayor last Saturday to ask him to open a relief fund for the sufferers from the earthquake in Essex and the eastern counties. The Lord Mayor said he would do so, and a list was opened, more than £700 being received before the proceedings closed.

The opening of the new wing of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, by Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), which was fixed to take place on the 6th inst., has been postponed until the beginning of July, in consequence of the death of the Duke of Albany.

Sir Coutts Lindsay presided last Saturday evening at the anniversary festival of the Artists' Benevolent Fund, which took place at the Freemasons' Tavern. Subscriptions amounting to upwards of £600 were announced.

Last Saturday 150 emigrants from the congested districts in East London, assisted by the East-End Emigration Fund, of which the Duke of Manchester is President, left the Victoria Docks for Canada, where they will be received by Government agents, and work found for them.

A dramatic performance will be given by the Vaudeville and Stanley Dramatic Societies at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Tuesday, May 13, the proceeds of which will be added to the funds of Mrs. Gladstone's Convalescent Home at Woodford. The *pièce de résistance* is Andrew Halliday's comedy, "For Love or Money," which will be followed by an original burlesque, "The Forté Thieves" (played piano).

The Earl of Dalhousie will preside at the biennial dinner on behalf of the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, to be held at Willis's Rooms on Tuesday, May 20.

Mr. J. Russell Lowell, the American Minister, presided yesterday week at a meeting of the Browning Society, held in the London University (at which a paper by Mr. J. Cotter Morison on "Caliban upon Setebos" was read by Mr. Funnell. In opening the proceedings, Mr. Lowell expressed great admiration of Mr. Browning, especially as a dramatic writer.

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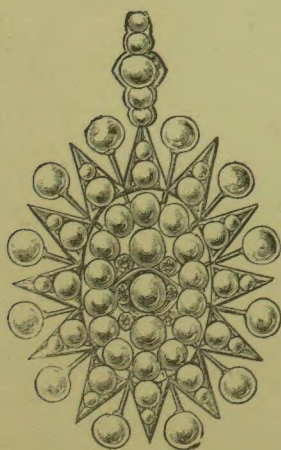
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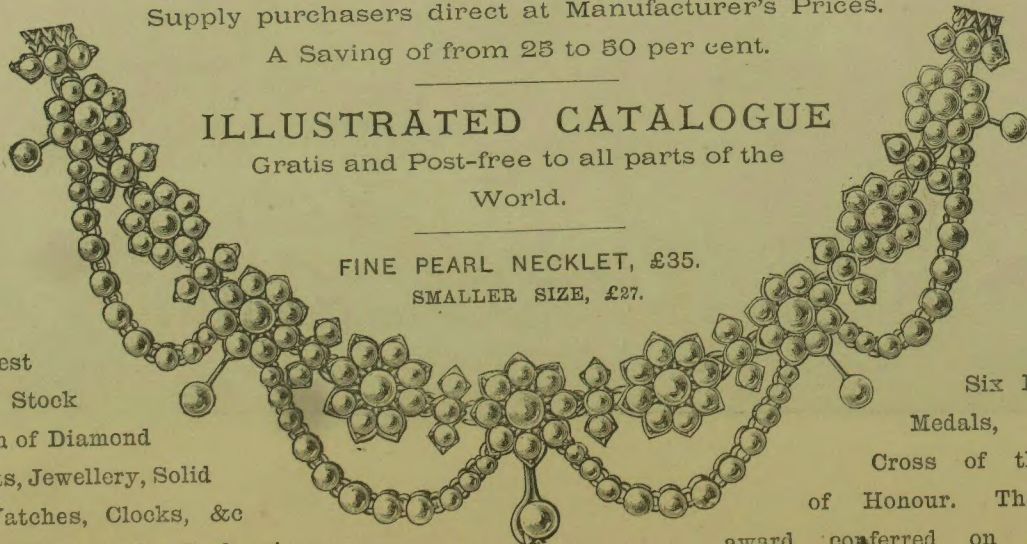
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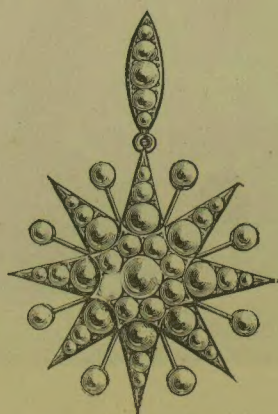


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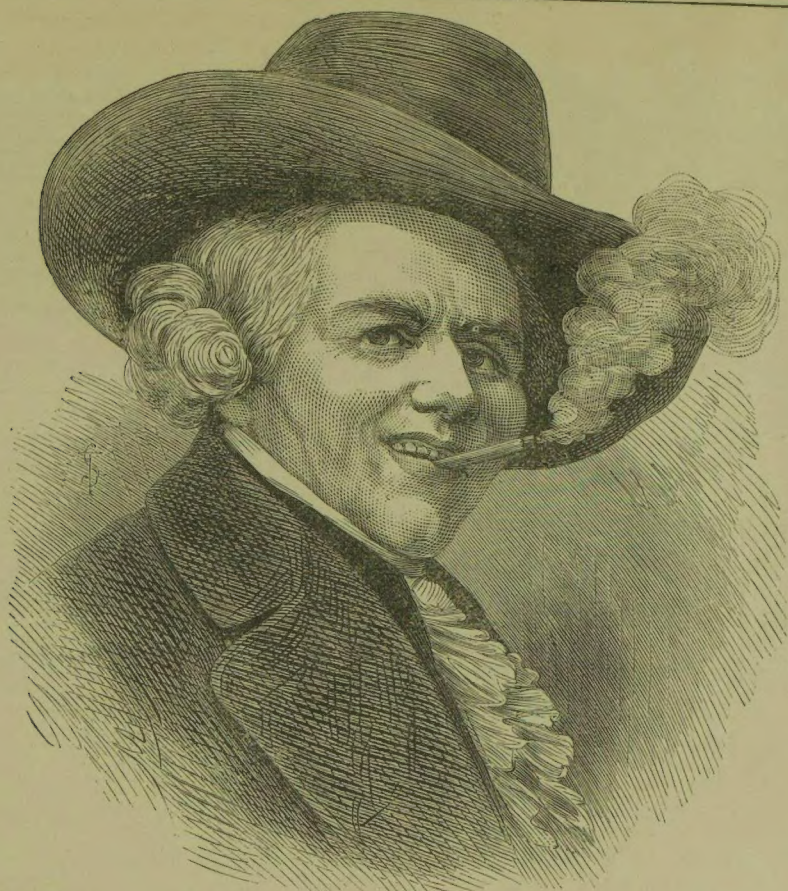


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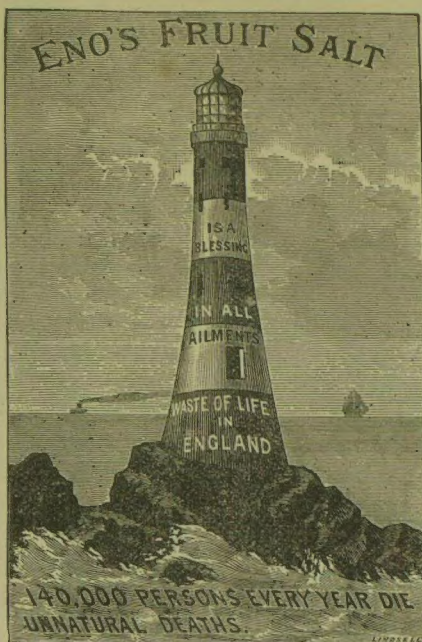
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**HEADACHE AND DISORDERED STOMACH.**—After suffering for nearly two years and a half from severe headache and disordered stomach, and after trying almost everything and spending much money without finding any benefit, I was recommended by a friend to try your FRUIT SALT, and before I had finished one bottle I found it doing me a great deal of good, and now I am restored to my usual health; and others I know that have tried it have not enjoyed such good health for years.—Yours most truly, ROBERT HUMPHREYS, Post Office, Barrasford.

**USE ENO'S FRUIT,** prepared from sound, ripe fruit.—What every travelling trunk and household in the world ought to contain—a bottle of ENO'S FRUIT SALT. Without such a simple precaution the jeopardy of life is immensely increased. "All our customers for Eno's Salt would not be without it upon any consideration, they have received so much benefit from it."—Wood Brothers, Chemists, Jersey.

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**TESTIMONIALS.**  
**EXTREME WEAKNESS & GENERAL DEBILITY.**  
From Mrs. AMELIA VEROB, Ivy Cottage, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, Nov. 26, 1883.

I write to say that I find the Electropathic Belt I purchased from you a few months ago has done me a vast amount of good; my FIGURE IS SMALLER, the pain is better, and my general health too.

**BRONCHITIS & ASTHMA.**  
Mr. W. PITTOCK, 62, Douglas-terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.  
On May 6, 1883, Mrs. Pittock was very ill with Bronchitis and Asthma, and her recovery was doubtful—we had to prop her up with pillows. She could retain nothing on her stomach but a little weak brandy and champagne. The interval between the coughing fits did not exceed fifteen minutes. Under these conditions I wrote for your Electropathic Lung Investigator. I have now to inform you that Mrs. Pittock is better than she has been for thirty years, and her cough and asthma entirely gone.

**NERVOUS EXHAUSTION.**  
Remarkable Testimonial from a Gentleman who does not wish his name published. The original letter can be seen on application at the Offices of the Association.

From E—H—, Esq., Liverpool, Nov. 3, 1883.  
The various appliances you sent were all for me, but I did not then wish my name to be introduced: there is so much rank humbug in the world that I was at the time afraid this would turn out to be another specimen. I now beg to say that I am not only pleased but delighted at the result of my experience. I may tell you that before I commenced to wear the Belt and Spine Pad I could not for the life of me write a word; my memory was completely gone, and what I did or said was quite forgotten within an hour. From the nature of the business I have for seventeen years been engaged in—viz. Stock and Share Broker, you will know that there is a tremendous strain on the brain. I am now, I am most happy to say, as well as ever I was in all my life, and I have no hesitation in saying that my present state of health is entirely owing to my having, through the influence of Mrs. H., been induced to try your Electropathic appliances. I say further, that I said at the time that I had not the slightest faith in any of your appliances, which I then described as rank humbug! I have now become as firm a believer as I was an unbeliever! Doctors (for your information) are very much against this Electric cure, and the only reply I can get from my doctor is, "It is certainly marvellous!" I have already sent you one or two patients.

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**TESTIMONIALS.**

The attention of LADIES is directed to the following HIGHLY SATISFACTORY CASE, which is worthy of the closest investigation by all who suffer from these distressing irregularities.

From Mrs. J. HAWKEY, 16, Matilda-street, Barnsbury, London, N.

I have received great benefit since wearing your Electropathic Belt. Wearing it has improved my health every way. I fail to express in words the satisfaction it gives me. I have not felt so well for years as I have since wearing your Belt. I was under the care of a physician for six months, suffering from the usual irregularities incidental to DEBILITY and BAD CIRCULATION. I was despairing of ever feeling well again, when I was recommended your Electropathic Belt. I cannot say enough in favour of it.

**SCIATICA.**  
Mr. J. R. WATSON, Proprietor of "The Harwich Free Press," 13, Market-street, Harwich, writes:

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**LUMBAGO.**  
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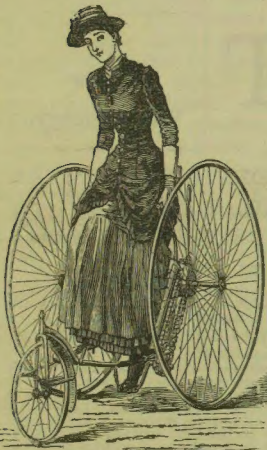
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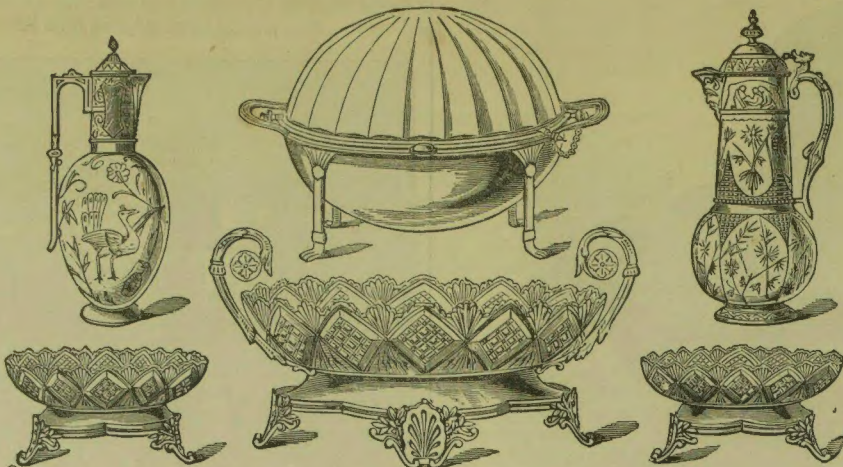
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